FLORENT MAUDOUX

FREAKS SQUEELE

Funérailles T.2

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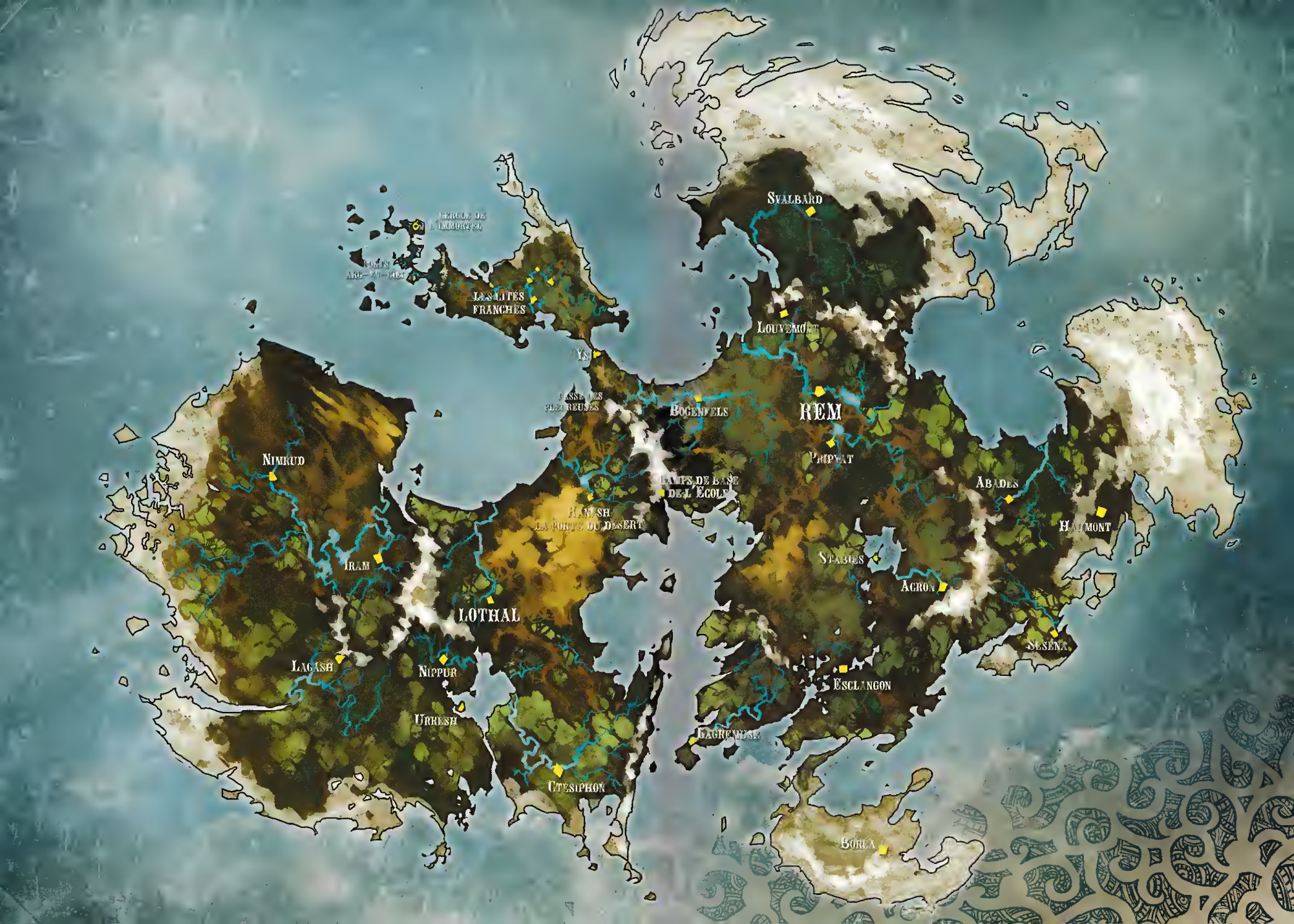
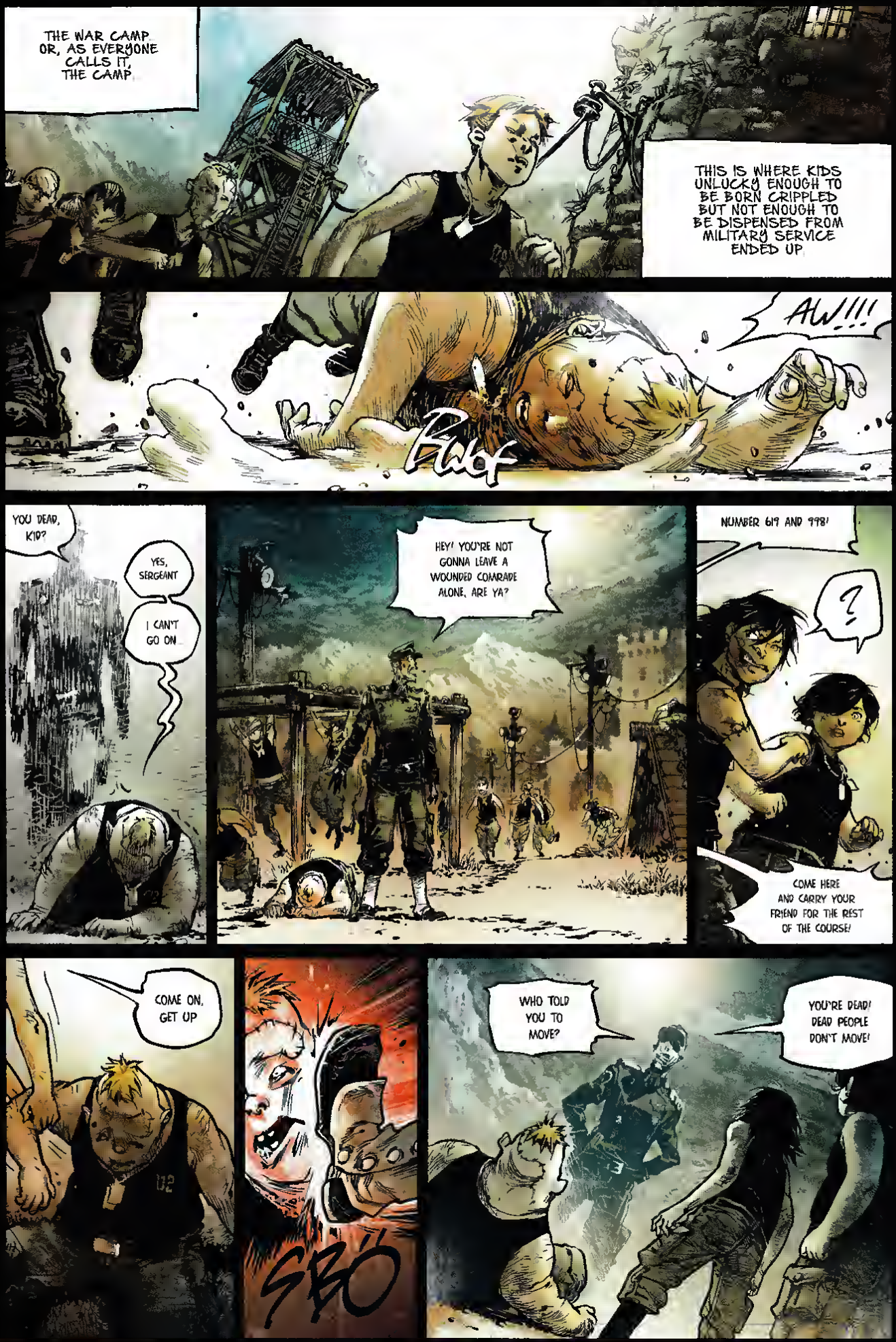
Funérailles T.2

PAIN IN BLACK
Scenario, dessin et couleur
FLORENT MAUDOUX


Svalbard
Les Lutes Franches
Louvemont
Ys
Bogenfels
Rem
Nimrud
Priphat
Abades
Hammont
Iram
Lothal
Stables
Agron
Nesena
Lagish
Nippur
Esclangon
Urresh
Ctesiphon
Borca

République de REM
7
Royaume du NAMOR
7
Territoires francs
2
Ouest
Est
Nord
Est
REM
Nord
Nord
Sud
Est


THE WAR CAMP. OR, AS EVERYONE CALLS IT, THE CAMP.
THIS IS WHERE KIDS UNLUCKY ENOUGH TO BE BORN CRIPPLED BUT NOT ENOUGH TO BE DISPENSED FROM MILITARY SERVICE ENDED UP.
AW!!!
RUF
YOU DEAD, KID?
YES, SERGEANT
I CAN'T GO ON...
HEY! YOU'RE NOT GONNA LEAVE A WOUNDED COMRADE ALONE, ARE YA?
NUMBER 619 AND 998!
?
COME HERE AND CARRY YOUR FRIEND FOR THE REST OF THE COURSE!
COME ON, GET UP
SBÓ
WHO TOLD YOU TO MOVE?
YOU'RE DEAD! DEAD PEOPLE DON'T MOVE!

I'M SORRY I'M SUCH A DEADWEIGHT...
IMPOSSIBLE!
WE WON'T MAKE IT IF WE HAVE TO CARRY HIM
GNIIIII
KICH
MY DEAR MAMMOTH ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO COMPLAIN ABOUT WEIGHT?
YOU KNOW WHAT, PRAETOR?
YOU'RE A FUCKING DEGENERATE
A BURDEN...
YOUR WORDS ARE LIKE HONEY TO MY EARS.
I'M JUST A BURDEN TO YOU. PLEASE LEAVE ME BEHIND
DON'T WORRY. I'VE BEEN RAISED IN A MORGUE I'M USED TO CORPSES
I'M PROUD OF YOU, BOYS!
WHO WOULD HAVE GUESSED THAT TWO HEROES WERE HIDING AMONG YOU IDIOTS?
AFTER WITNESSING THEIR BROTHER FALLING IN THE BATTLEFIELD, THEY DID NOT HESITATE AND DRAGGED HIM TO SAFETY
YOU COULD HAVE BEEN MORE CAREFUL
YOUR HEAD'S STILL ATTACHED TO YOUR BODY
DO THEY DESERVE A REWARD?
YES SERGEANT!
I CAN'T HEAR YOU!
YES SERGEANT!!!

YOU'RE STILL A BUNCH OF BABIES THAT NEED HEROES CAPABLE OF SACRIFICING THEMSELVES TO SAVE YOUR ASSES
AND SINCE WE ARE A REPUBLIC, YOU ARE GOING TO VOTE FOR YOUR OWN REPRESENTATIVE
PRAETOR, WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?
I HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS
REPRESENTATIVE?
OUCH!
WHAT WILL A REPRESENTATIVE DO?
VOTE?
611, 998... YOU'LL BE THE TWO CANDIDATES. COME HERE AND GIVE US A SPEECH.
YOU'LL HAVE TO MAKE IT SHORT. THEY DON'T SEEM TOO KEEN ON LISTENING.
...
998 IS DROPPING OUT. I'M THE ONLY CANDIDATE LEFT WILL YOU VOTE FOR ME?
YES!
YES!
YES!
ALRIGHT SMARTASS YOU START NOW.
YOU ARE NOW RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR COMRADES' BEHAVIOR.
DISMISSED! GO TAKE A SHOWER YOU ALL STINK!
THANKS PRAETOR.
YOU OWE ME ONE.

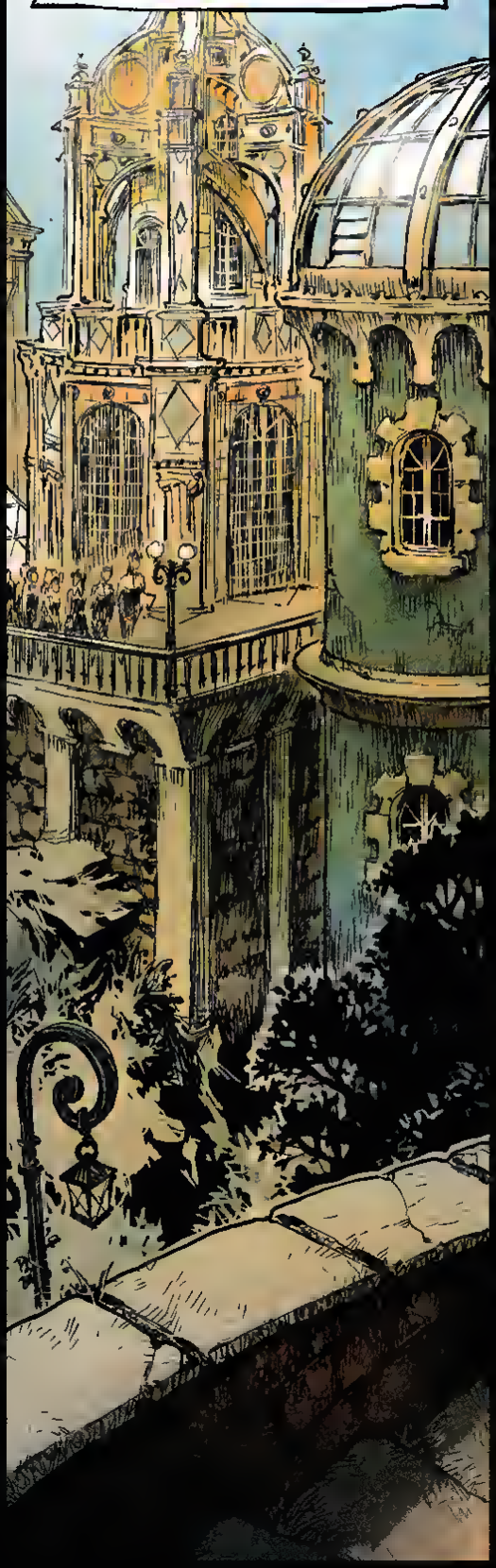
WHAAHAA!!
COME ON!
HIT HIM!
THE HELL IS THIS?!!
COME ON GARGOYLE, I BET EVERYTHING ON YOU!
TAKE THIS, ASSHOLE!
WHY ARE THEY FIGHTING?
SOMETHING ABOUT SOAP
STOP THIS RIGHT NOW!
I'M GONNA CRUSH YOU!
WAHHHHHH
?
SBO
BWAP
PEK
NO FIGHTS IN MY HOME, BOYS.
AW!
YA!!!
GIT, YOU'RE COMING WITH US.
WAIT, LET ME HELP YOU...
THANKS.
BWAK
I SAID "GIT". I DON'T REMEMBER ADDING ANOTHER NUMBER.

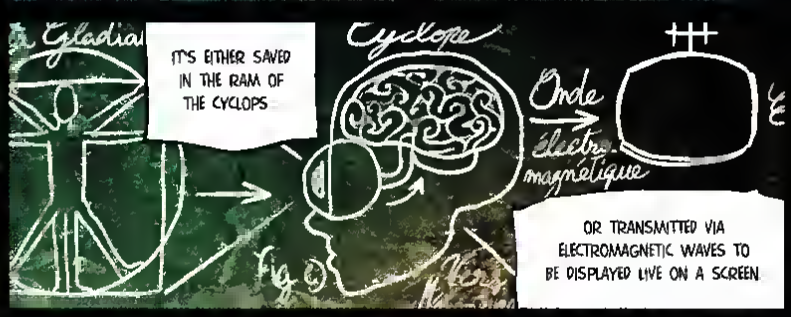
KZZZZZ
RRR
ZZZ
RZZZZZ
RRRRR
PSST! COME HERE, IDIOT.
ROMFLL
ZZZ
I'M COVERED IN SWEAT
IT'S COLD. YOU'LL KEEP ME WARM.
YOU TOOK YOUR TIME.
AS THE REPRESENTATIVE I'M AS RESPONSIBLE AS THEM. HE MADE ME RUN THREE LAPS.
THE BIG LOOP
DON'T LET THE SERGEANT GET TO YOU. HE'S TESTING YOU
TOMORROW HE'LL TAKE IT OUT ON SOMEONE ELSE.
I DON'T THINK IT'LL BE THAT SIMPLE
HE WON'T STOP UNTIL HE BREAKS ME. HE ALWAYS BREAKS US IN THE END.

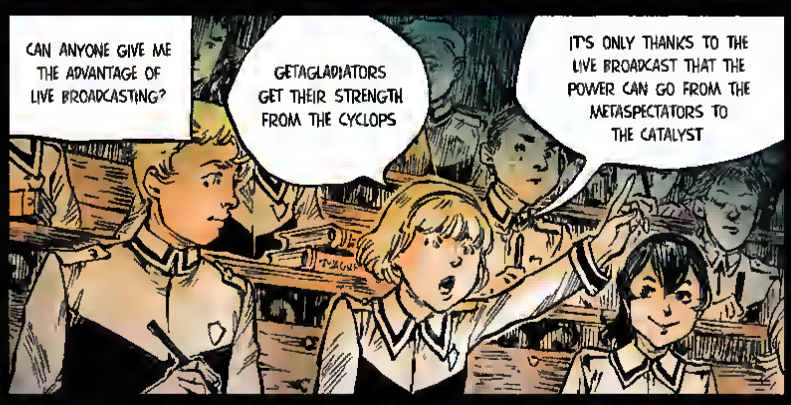
RZZZ
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? YOU'RE LETTING THE COLD IN!
WE HAVE TO GET OUT.
ARE YOU MAD? DON'T YOU KNOW WHAT THEY DO TO DESERTERS?
I'VE BEEN PREPARING THIS FOR A WHILE.
YOU COMING?

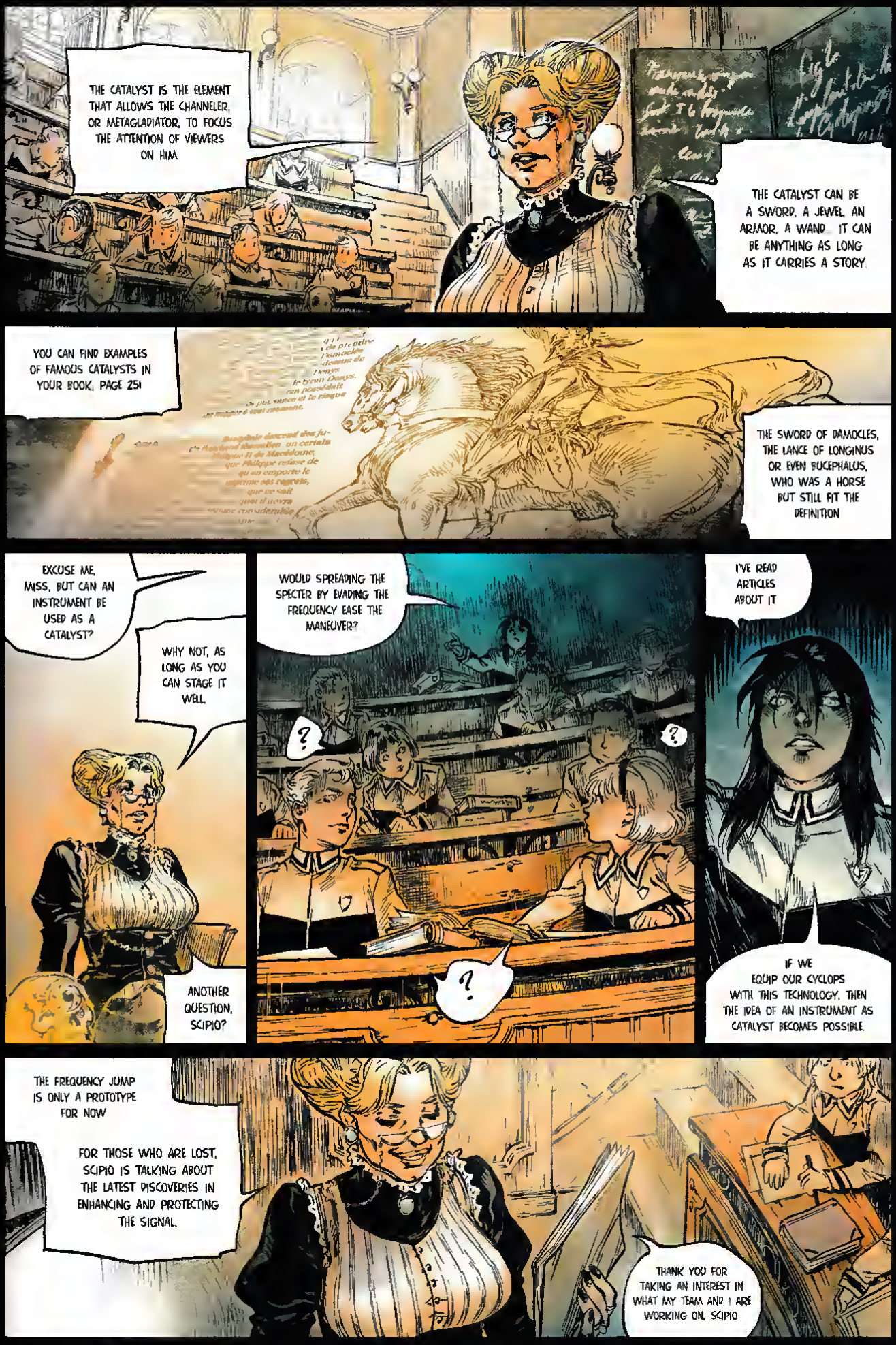
DESERT ON THIS SIDE...
MOUNTAINS ON THE OTHER.
WE'LL HAVE BETTER CHANCES OF SURVIVAL ON THE ROAD BUT IT'LL BE EASIER FOR THEM TO FIND US
IF WE STAY THE SCHOOL WILL LOBOTOMIZE US! TAKE EVERYTHING FROM US EVEN OUR SOULS
PRAETOR. WHO WILL AVENGE YOUR FATHER IF WE'RE DEAD?
YOU KNOW I'LL FOLLOW YOU EVERYWHERE...
TO HELL IF I MUST
FPWOOOF
COME ON GIRLS! WAKE UP!
BWOOO
I HOPE YOU SLEPT WELL BECAUSE YOU'RE GONNA HAVE A LONG DAY!
TING
TINGTING

FAR FROM THE WAR CAMP AND ITS MILITARY DISCIPLINE, THERE WAS THE PHANTOM SCHOOL. OFFICERS, HEROES, METAGLADIATORS. THE FUTURE ELITES OF THE NATION WERE ALL TRAINED THERE.



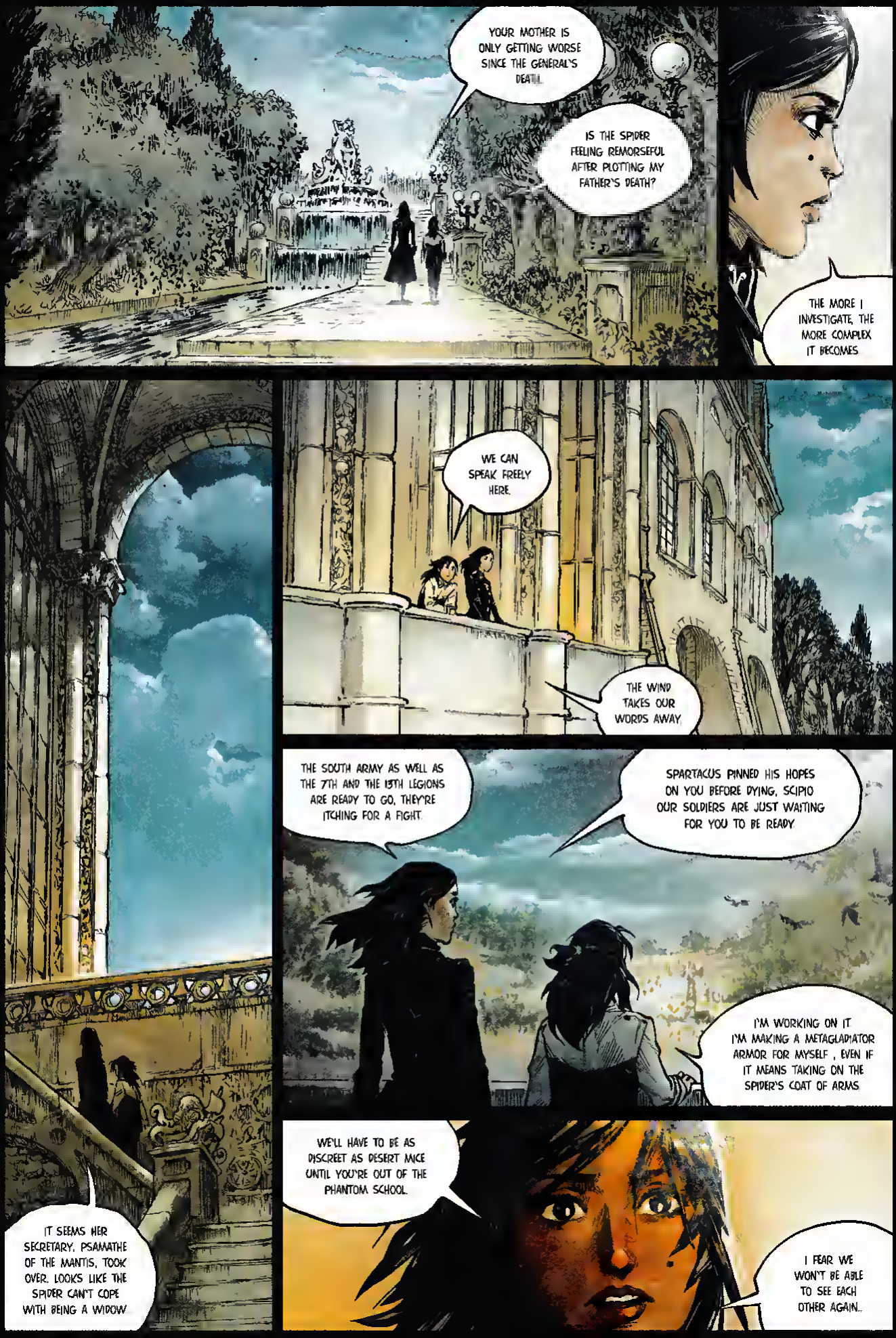

Gladia
IT'S EITHER SAVED IN THE RAM OF THE CYCLOPS
Cyclope
Onde électro-magnétique
OR TRANSMITTED VIA ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVES TO BE DISPLAYED LIVE ON A SCREEN

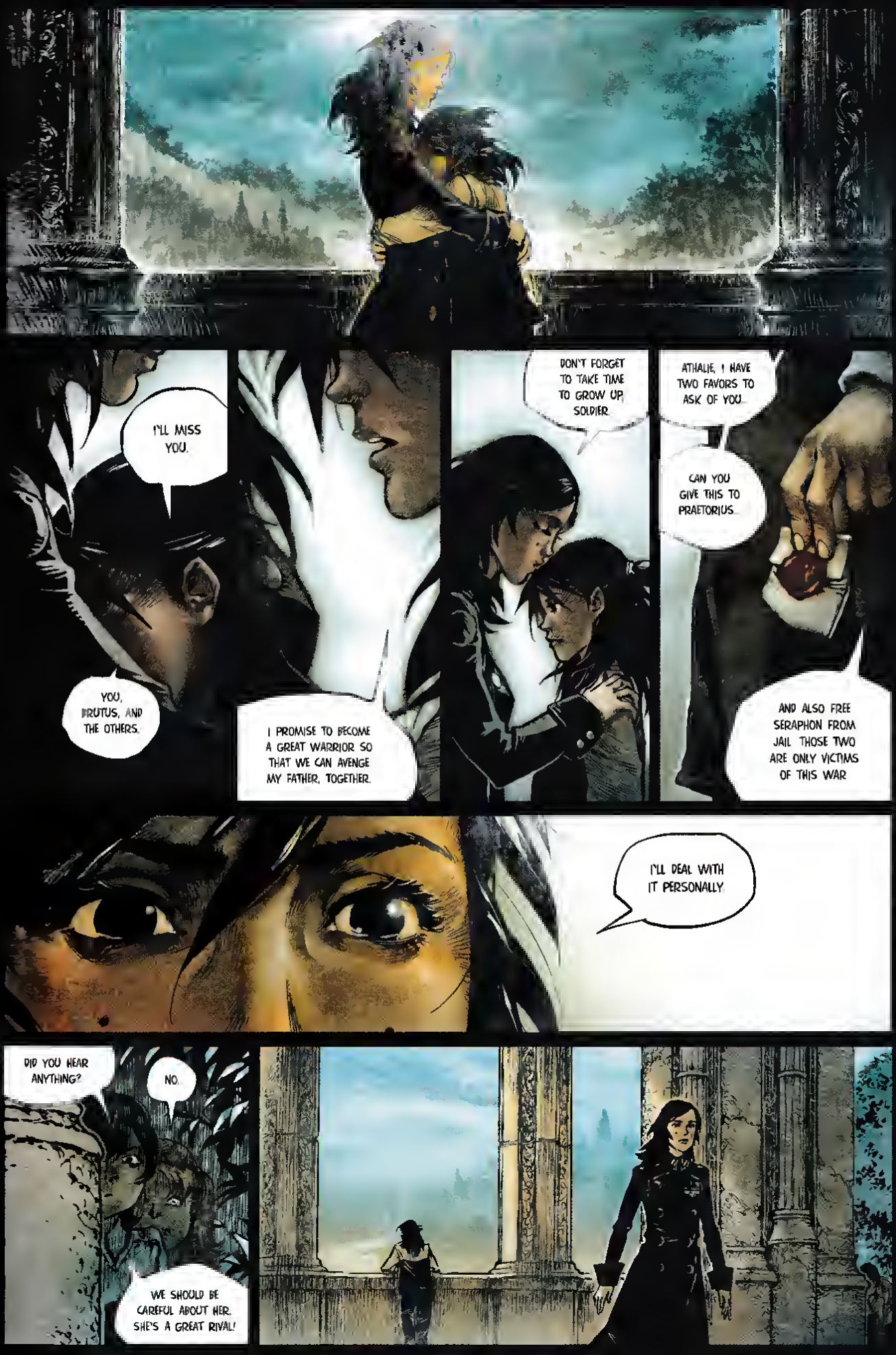

CAN ANYONE GIVE ME THE ADVANTAGE OF LIVE BROADCASTING?
GETAGLADIATORS GET THEIR STRENGTH FROM THE CYCLOPS
IT'S ONLY THANKS TO THE LIVE BROADCAST THAT THE POWER CAN GO FROM THE METASPECTATORS TO THE CATALYST


THE CATALYST IS THE ELEMENT THAT ALLOWS THE CHANNELER, OR METAGLADIATOR, TO FOCUS THE ATTENTION OF VIEWERS ON HIM.
THE CATALYST CAN BE A SWORD, A JEWEL, AN ARMOR, A WAND... IT CAN BE ANYTHING AS LONG AS IT CARRIES A STORY.
YOU CAN FIND EXAMPLES OF FAMOUS CATALYSTS IN YOUR BOOK, PAGE 251
THE SWORD OF DAMOCLES, THE LANCE OF LONGINUS OR EVEN BUCEPHALUS, WHO WAS A HORSE BUT STILL FIT THE DEFINITION
EXCUSE ME, MISS, BUT CAN AN INSTRUMENT BE USED AS A CATALYST?
WHY NOT, AS LONG AS YOU CAN STAGE IT WELL.
ANOTHER QUESTION, SCIPIO?
WOULD SPREADING THE SPECTER BY EVADING THE FREQUENCY EASE THE MANEUVER?
?
?
?
I'VE READ ARTICLES ABOUT IT
IF WE EQUIP OUR CYCLOPS WITH THIS TECHNOLOGY, THEN THE IDEA OF AN INSTRUMENT AS CATALYST BECOMES POSSIBLE.
THE FREQUENCY JUMP IS ONLY A PROTOTYPE FOR NOW
FOR THOSE WHO ARE LOST, SCIPIO IS TALKING ABOUT THE LATEST DISCOVERIES IN ENHANCING AND PROTECTING THE SIGNAL.
THANK YOU FOR TAKING AN INTEREST IN WHAT MY TEAM AND I ARE WORKING ON, SCIPIO

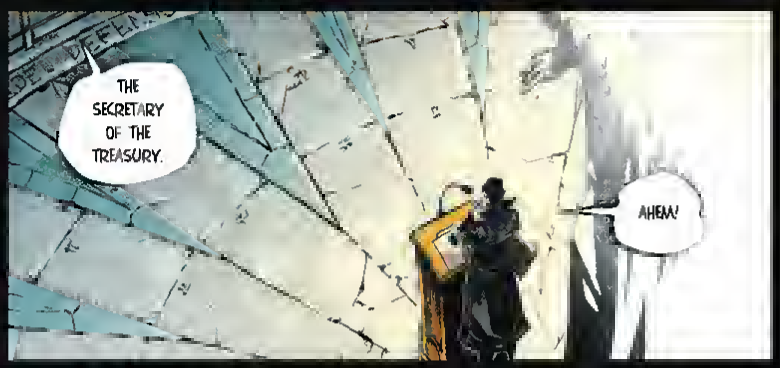
I'M IN LOVE
TELL US!
MY HEART WAVERS BETWEEN AELIUS, THE HANDSOME APOLLO OR DARK AND MYSTERIOUS SCIPIO, WHOM I'VE KNOWN SINCE CHILDHOOD
WHAT A BEAUTIFUL SCENE WHEN AELIUS RIDES WITH HIS FRIENDS!
BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, SCIPIO IS CLEVER AND A GREAT MUSICIAN
I JUST CAN'T DECIDE.
Jeunes Filles en Fleurs

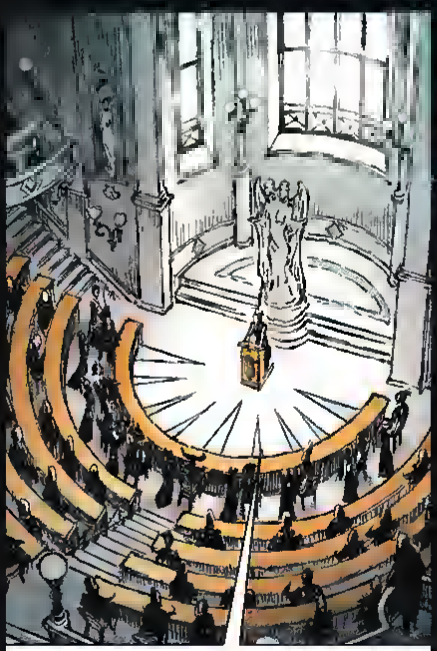
DON'T YOU THINK HE'S SEXY WHEN HE PLAYS? HE'S SO FOCUSED.
HE HAS BEAUTIFUL HANDS. IMAGINE WHAT HE COULD DO WITH THEM, HEHEHE!
HE HE HE!
STOOOOP, YOU'RE CRAZY TO THINK ABOUT THAT AT YOUR AGE, HEHE!
YOUR TALKING ANNOYS ME, QUANTUM PHYSICS DO NOT PUT UP WITH NOISE!
PLENG
TAK TAK TAK
HEHEHE!
TSK...
TAK TAK TAK
ARE YOU TRYING TO MAKE ME ANGRY?
I'D LOVE TO SEE THAT.
ATHALIE!
SORRY, JUDICATOR ATHALIE.
WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?
COMMON COURTESY, NOTHING MORE.
LET'S ENJOY THE SCHOOL GARDENS.
THIS OLD HAG ALREADY HAS A HEAD START ON US.


YOUR MOTHER IS ONLY GETTING WORSE SINCE THE GENERAL'S DEATH.
IS THE SPIDER FEELING REMORSEFUL AFTER PLOTTING MY FATHER'S DEATH?
THE MORE I INVESTIGATE, THE MORE COMPLEX IT BECOMES.
IT SEEMS HER SECRETARY, PSAMATHE OF THE MANTIS, TOOK OVER. LOOKS LIKE THE SPIDER CAN'T COPE WITH BEING A WIDOW.
WE CAN SPEAK FREELY HERE.
THE WIND TAKES OUR WORDS AWAY.
THE SOUTH ARMY AS WELL AS THE 7TH AND THE 13TH LEGIONS ARE READY TO GO. THEY'RE ITCHING FOR A FIGHT.
SPARTACUS PINNED HIS HOPES ON YOU BEFORE DYING, SCIPIO. OUR SOLDIERS ARE JUST WAITING FOR YOU TO BE READY.
I'M WORKING ON IT. I'M MAKING A METAGLADIATOR ARMOR FOR MYSELF , EVEN IF IT MEANS TAKING ON THE SPIDER'S COAT OF ARMS.
WE'LL HAVE TO BE AS DISCREET AS DESERT MICE UNTIL YOU'RE OUT OF THE PHANTOM SCHOOL.
I FEAR WE WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN...

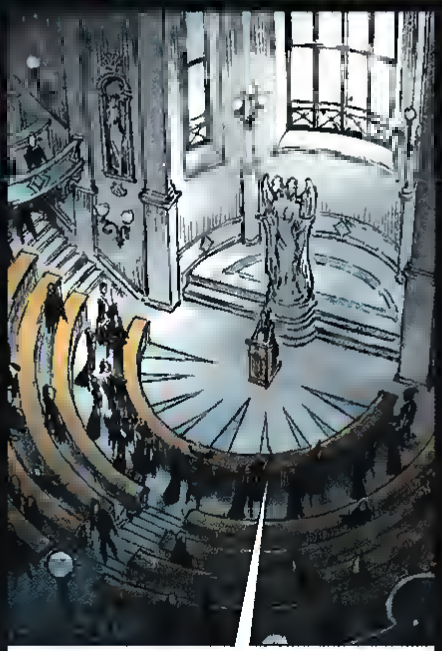

I'LL MISS YOU.
YOU, BRUTUS, AND THE OTHERS.
I PROMISE TO BECOME A GREAT WARRIOR SO THAT WE CAN AVENGE MY FATHER, TOGETHER.
DON'T FORGET TO TAKE TIME TO GROW UP, SOLDIER.
ATHALIE, I HAVE TWO FAVORS TO ASK OF YOU...
CAN YOU GIVE THIS TO PRAETORIUS...
AND ALSO FREE SERAPHON FROM JAIL. THOSE TWO ARE ONLY VICTIMS OF THIS WAR
I'LL DEAL WITH IT PERSONALLY.
DID YOU HEAR ANYTHING?
NO.
WE SHOULD BE CAREFUL ABOUT HER. SHE'S A GREAT RIVAL!

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF NINE.
PSAMATHE OF THE MANTIS IS EXCEPTIONALLY HERE AS THE VOICE OF VARANE LUCIANNE OF THE SPIDER.

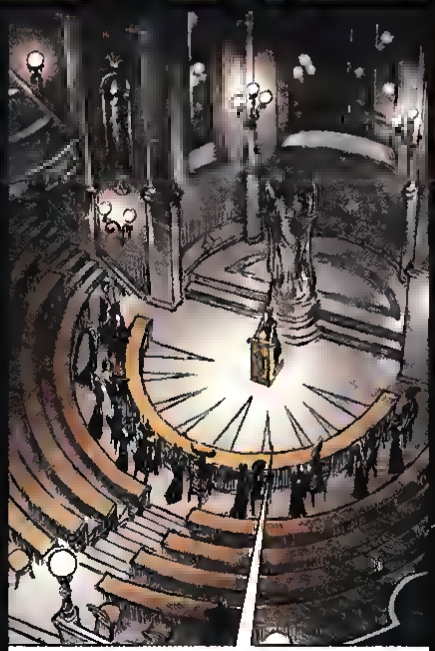




... REDUCING PUBLIC SPENDING WILL BE A GREAT PROJECT SINCE THE PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT ONLY WIDENED THE DEFICIT BY TAKING DECISIONS THAT...



... NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF THE DECENTRALIZATION ARE STARTING TO BE FELT IN OUR SCHOOLS, WHERE THE EQUIPMENT IS BECOMING LESS AND LESS...



... CANNOT IGNORE THE FINANCIAL LOBBIES WITHOUT BEING HARSHLY PUNISHED. SHOULD WE CALL THIS PROTECTIONISM? NO ! DON'T THINK...

UNLIKE VARANE CAMELIA, THE HOUSE OF THE SPIDER IS IN FAVOR OF AN INJECTION OF CAPITAL TO RESTART THE MACHINE
ALTHOUGH WE MUST REDUCE SPENDING, DON'T WE RISK GOING IN A RECESSION BY DOING SO?
IMMOBILISM IS TOO EXPENSIVE FOR THE REPUBLIC, THE HOUSE OF THE CROW IS SUPPORTING YOU
ALL RIGHT, IT'S GETTING LATE LET'S VOTE THOSE IN FAVOUR OF TAKING A GREAT LOAN?
FIVE VOICES FOR, FOUR AGAINST. YOUR BUDGET IS ADOPTED, MISTER SECRETARY
THIS MEETING IS OVER GOOD NIGHT EVERYONE.
LADY PSAMATHE CAN I HAVE SOME OF YOUR TIME?
YOUR EMINENCE.
LET'S CUT TO THE CHASE: DO YOU KNOW IF SHE'LL EVER BE BACK AT THE COUNCIL?
WE ARE DOING EVERYTHING WE CAN TO MAKE HER BETTER. UNFORTUNATELY I THINK VARANE LUCIANNE IS VERY AFFECTED BY HER HUSBAND'S DEATH
YOU ARE DOING WELL IN HER PLACE, BUT IT'D BE BETTER FOR HER TO SHOW HERSELF, TO APPEASE THE RUMORS
THEY SAY THE BLACK WIDOW IS AS MAD AS HER MOTHER
WE'LL FIND A CURE.
THANK YOU, LADY PSAMATHE.
YOUR HELP IS PRECIOUS IN THESE TROUBLED TIMES.
THE VARANES ARE LOOKING FOR A CASUS BELLI IN EVERY MISSTEP

DID SHE DRINK HER BROTH?
NO, MY LADY, SHE WON'T EAT.
GIVE IT TO ME, I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT.
LUCIANNE...
IT'S ME.
PSAMATHE.
IT'S TIME TO STOP MOPING AROUND
PEOPLE ARE STARTING TO ASK QUESTIONS
HE DIED BECAUSE OF ME! AM I SUPPOSED TO JUST GET OVER IT?!
LUCIANNE, WE TALKED ABOUT IT...
YOU DID EVERYTHING YOU COULD. YOU WARNED HIM. HE SHOULD HAVE LISTENED TO YOU
HIS PRIDE AND HIS STUBBORNNESS KILLED HIM. NOT YOU.
REMEMBER THE PEOPLE YOU'RE FIGHTING FOR.
MY SONS...

YOUR ONLY SON
THERE IS ONLY ONE. SCIPIO
NOW EAT YOUR BROTH. FOR HIM...
THAT'S GOOD
CAN YOU DO IT ON YOUR OWN?
MY SON! HE'S SO UNGRATEFUL, HE DOESN'T EVEN ANSWER MY LETTERS.
CALM DOWN, DON'T EAT TOO QUICKLY.
HE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT IT COST ME TO PROTECT HIM.
PROTECT HIM...
OUR HOUSE... THE SPIDER.
I HAVE TO SHOW MYSELF AT THE COUNCIL TO REPRESENT THE HOUSE.
INDEED, THAT WOULD BE USEFUL.
BUT IF YOU WANT TO MAKE A GOOD IMPRESSION YOU CAN'T SHOW ANY SIGN OF WEAKNESS EVEN YOUR ALLIES FROM THE CROW AND THE ABYSS WOULD ONLY MAKE SHORT WORK OF YOU
YES, YOU'RE RIGHT.
YOU MUST REST FOR NOW.
GO BACK TO STABIES' MANOR FOR A WHILE.
BEING WITH YOUR FAMILY WILL MAKE YOU BETTER.
I'LL TAKE CARE OF EVERYTHING

PWOOF
HURRY UP YOU LAZY BASTARDS!
EVERYTHING MUST BE READY FOR THE INSPECTION!
I WANT EVERYTHING TO BE AS CLEAN AS YOUR MOTHER'S ASS!
CLAM
VINE! YOUR LOCKER IS OVERFLOWING!
BWOT
THREE FINGERS, YOU STILL DON'T KNOW HOW TO MAKE YOUR BED?!!
PRAETOR, THERE'S A PROBLEM...
WHAT NOW?!!
HERE'S THE PROBLEM.
GARGOYLE ARE YOU STUPID OR DO YOU LIKE GETTING YOUR ASS KICKED?
I THOUGHT YOU COULD CLEAN UP FOR ME...
REPRESENTATIVE.
YOU WOULDN'T LIKE THE SERGEANT TO GET ANGRY BECAUSE OF ONE BED, WOULD YOU?
STOP YOUR BULLSHIT RIGHT NOW, GARGOYLE, OR...
PRAETOR!
I'LL GIVE YOU THE BEATING OF YOUR LIFE!
OH YEAH? I'D LIKE TO SEE YOU TRY!

SERGEANT...
403
AREN'T YOU TOO HARSH WITH NUMBER 619?
THERE'S STILL THIS LOOK IN HIS EYES.
HE HAS THAT "BAD SOLDIER" LOOK.
BUT YOU'LL MAKE A SERGEANT-INSTRUCTOR OUT OF HIM, WON'T YOU?
CAPTAIN...
HE DOES HAVE A BAD NATURE.
HE WAS BORN UNDER AN UNLUCKY STAR OTHERWISE HE WOULD HAVE MADE AN EXCELLENT OFFICER OR EVEN...
A METAWARRIOR.
WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, LET ME DO MY JOB WITH THE KIDS.

RRR
RRR
RRRR
MMM
SWIP
MMMMMMMMM...
SWIF
SWIF
SWAAAH
I WARNED YOU, GARGOYLE... IT'S TIME TO PAY...
MMM?
SWOK
VIOLENCE IS THE ONLY THING ASSHOLES LIKE YOU UNDERSTAND!
URK
I'M GOING TO HIT YOU SO HARD YOUR BALLS WILL...
ERK
ERK
!!!
DAD!!!
PRAETORIUS!!!

SHIT!
DID YOU LOOK HIM IN THE EYES?
WHAT ARE WE DOING?
I TOLD YOU NOT TO LOOK HIM IN THE EYES
THIS IS NOT WHAT MY FATHER TAUGHT ME.
DON'T WORRY, PRAETOR WE'LL TEACH HIM SOME MANNERS.
HE'LL JUST DO IT AGAIN IF WE DON'T PUNISH HIM.
BAK
STOMP
STOP!!!
DON'T YOU SEE WHAT THEY'RE DOING?
THEY'RE BREAKING US.
URK URK !
THEN THEY PUT US AGAINST EACH OTHER!
I WON'T LET THEM TAKE WHAT LITTLE HUMANITY I HAVE LEFT
UK UK UK
YOU CAN'T ANSWER ME. YOU'RE OUT OF BREATH BECAUSE YOU'RE DROWNING IN YOUR VOMIT
URK
SO JUST NOD TO SAY YES OR NO.
YOU WON'T DO IT AGAIN?
TONIGHT'S LITTLE LESSON WAS ENOUGH?
YES?
THAT'S GOOD.
DO YOU UNDERSTAND THAT I JUST SAVED YOU?
YES?
GARGOYLE, YOU'RE GONNA MAKE EVERYONE KNOW THIS... THE REPRESENTATIVE IS GOOD, HE'S MERCIFUL AND HE CAN MAKE OUR LIVES BETTER IF WE LISTEN TO HIM.
THERE WILL BE LESS PUNISHMENTS AND LESS CHORES BECAUSE WE'LL DIVIDE THEM UP EQUALLY NO ONE WILL BE LEFT ALONE AGAINST THE SERGEANT
YOU GOT ALL THAT?
YES?
THEN GO!
YOU'RE TAKING GREAT RISKS BY TRUSTING HIM.
I KNOW.
THE SERGEANT ASKED FOR A CAMPAIGN AND HE'LL GET ONE.

AAAAAAATENTION!!!
403
NUMBER 403. I SEE THAT YOU'RE GETTING BETTER...
GWO
!!!
LOOK'S LIKE YOU HAVE SENSITIVE RIBS, 403
DID SOMEONE FORCE YOU TO CLEAN UP?
SERGEANT...
I ONLY UNDERSTOOD THAT IT WAS MY DUTY
GWO
DON'T LIE! WHO BEAT YOU UP?
NOBODY BUT ME MAKES THE LAW!
IN HERE I AM YOUR KING!
NOBODY BEAT ME UP, SERGEANT!
REVENGE CAN BE SWEET, 403... THE ONE WHO DID THIS TO YOU CAN BE PUNISHED FOR IT!
SERGEANT, I HURT MYSELF, I JUST FELL!
...

FINE! EVERYONE ON THE TRAINING GROUNDS IN THIRTY MINUTES !
YOU HAVE MAIL, ENJOY IT
CONGENITAL, A PACKAGE FOR YOU AS USUAL
COOKIES, NICE!
GIVE ME SOME, CONGENITAL!
I CAN'T BELIEVE GARGOYLE DIDN'T SNITCH
HONESTLY, ME NEITHER.
I HAVE SOMETHING FOR PRA... PRAETORIUS. IS THAT YOU, PRAETOR?
GIVE IT TO ME!
DUDE, CALM DOWN!
IS IT FROM YOUR FATHER?
NO.
IT'S FROM MY BROTHER.
YOU HAVE A BROTHER?
YES, HE'S AT THE PHANTOM SCHOOL
Hey little brother, if you're reading this then we still have a few friends despite the storm.
I asked people I trust to help master Seraphin get out of prison. You can count on their effectiveness and discretion.
I hope you're well and that you'll know how to make the best of the war comes. As for me, I will learn everything I can and get stronger. The world we're going to face is ruthless, we need to get better.
I know that our enemies have eyes and ears everywhere, so I advise you to destroy this paper and not to try to contact me. We'll have to find a way to find each other once our time in school is done. Then we can take revenge against the one who took our fathers.
Hasta la vista baby!
Espino
WHAT DID YOU GET, PRAETOR?
IS IT FOOD?
SCRITCH...
THAT'S A LETTER! YOU KNOW HOW TO READ, PRAETOR?
WOW! SOMEONE HERE CAN READ!
BACK OFF, HE'S MINE!
REALLY?
I HAVE A LABEL ON MY PANTS CAN HE READ THAT?
LET ME THROUGH.
?
GARGOYLE?
WHAT DOES HE WANT?

COULD YOU...?
I THINK IT'S FROM MY MOTHER SHE MUST HAVE HIRED A PUBLIC WRITER.
AND ME...
I CAN'T READ.
IF IT MAKES YOU HAPPY. I'M NOT A GOOD READER THOUGH...
SO...
IT STARTS WITH "DEAR SON..."
Dear son, I don't know where to begin. We miss you so much, your good mood and your strong arms are not here to help us through these harsh times anymore. Fortunately, we still have some good news to light up our days...
Your sister just gave birth to a wonderful boy who's just missing a foot and some fingers. He's already full of energy, i'm sure he'll make a good blacksmith, like his grandfather...
... We're all looking forward to your return from the camp, your brothers are already imagining what jokes they're going to play on you. Take care of yourself until then.
Your mother that loves you.
HERE.
SNIFF...
THAT'S IT.
SOB, SOB...
WOOHOO...
I WANT TO SEE MY FAMILY AGAIN!
MOMMY...
PRAETOR, IF I GIVE YOU MY DRY BISCUIT RATION FOR THE NEXT THREE DAYS, WILL YOU WRITE AN ANSWER FOR ME?
JUST FIND ME SOME PAPER AND A STAMP AND I'LL DO IT FOR FREE
WHAT?!!
WHAT ABOUT ME? CAN YOU WRITE TO MY FAMILY? I'D LIKE TO GIVE THEM NEWS

AND ME?
I ALSO HAVE A FAMILY.
I ASKED FIRST!
DON'T BE AN ASS, I ALSO WANT A LETTER.
ME TOO!
DON'T TOUCH HIM HE'S MINE!
COME ON! PLEASE.
I HAVE A SICK OLD AUNT...
PRAETOR, I'LL SLEEP WITH YOU IF YOU WRITE ME A LETTER.
ME TOO.
MY MOTHER MUST BE WORRIED SINCE I'VE BEEN HERE.
STOP! I WON'T HAVE TIME TO WRITE ALL YOUR LETTERS SO WE'RE GONNA MAKE IT SIMPLE!
TONIGHT AND EVERY NIGHT FROM NOW ON, I'LL TEACH YOU HOW TO WRITE AND READ BEFORE THE CURFEW.
IN A MONTH YOUR FAMILY WILL BE GETTING LETTERS FROM YOUR HANDS
TOO HARD.
DON'T FEEL LIKE IT.
AND AT THE END OF THE DAY...
IF I HAVE TO LEARN...
NOT MOTIVATED.
ALREADY TRIED TOO COMPLICATED
TOO HARD.
NOW THAT'S BETTER.
WE STILL HAVE SOME TIME BEFORE THE SERGEANT'S TORTURE SESSION
YOU WANT TO START LEARNING RIGHT NOW?
UNDERSTANDING AND WRITING INTELLIGIBLE WORDS IS NOT COMPLICATED WE'LL FOCUS ON THIS FOR NOW

MADAM.
NOW HERE'S A FACE I HAVEN'T SEEN IN A LONG TIME!
MADAM.
IN MY ARMS, DEAR SISTER
I'LL COME BACK NEXT MONTH TO SEE IF EVERYTHING'S ALL RIGHT
VESPA, SEE TO IT THAT SHE GETS HER TREATMENT
YES, MADAM.
COME, LET'S DRINK SOMETHING THE TRIP MUST HAVE BEEN LONG
SO, HOW'S LIFE IN THE CAPITAL THESE DAYS?
NOT TOO HARSH, I HOPE?

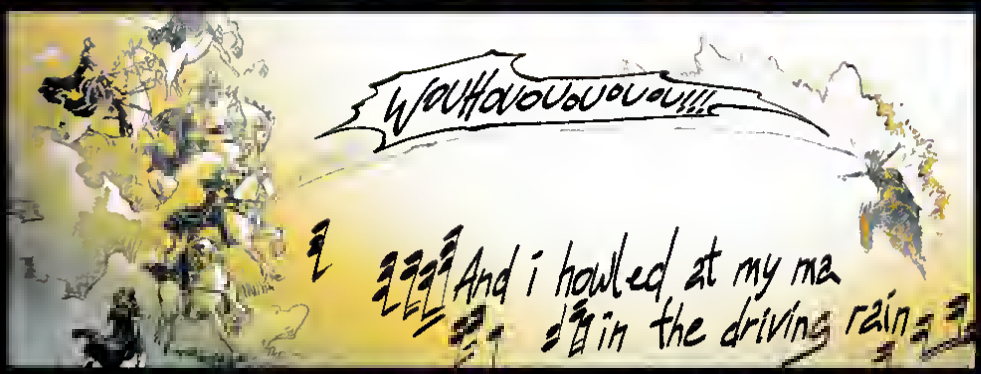
I NEED TO SEE HER
LUCIANNE I DON'T THINK YOU SHOULD
TIME HASN'T BEEN KIND WITH HER.
HER TEMPER...
I REMEMBER HER FITS WELL
IT'S ONLY BEEN GETTING WORSE SINCE THEN
BE CAREFUL
I HAVE TO SEE WHAT I MIGHT BECOME.
TAC
MOTHER
?

FINALLY HERE MY FAVORITE DAUGHTER
AND YOU CAME WITH YOUR SISTER.
MOTHER SYLVIA ISN'T HERE.
SHE'S IN SESENA TO FINISH HER STUDIES IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING
SYLVIA, THAT FRAGILE AND DISABLED THING?!
I WASN'T TALKING ABOUT HER...
LUCIANNE YOU WERE SO REBELLIOUS AS A CHILD
IT'S A GOOD THING YOUR TWIN WAS ALWAYS HERE TO REMIND YOU OF YOUR DUTY
MOTHER, THAT JAR STILL HAUNTS MY DREAMS WHERE DO YOU KEEP IT?
HA, THIS... YOU NEEDED SOMETHING TO KEEP YOU IN LINE. I JUST HAD TO BRING YOUR SISTER AND EVERYTHING WAS FINE.
MOTHER, WHERE IS MY TWIN SISTER? WHERE DID YOU PUT THE JAR?!
CAN'T YOU SEE HER?
OVER THERE.
JUST ON YOUR LEFT.

AELIUS SCIPIO THAT WAS EXCELLENT
THEY LOOK SO GREAT! WE CAN'T FALL BEHIND, GIRLS
SO AELIUS OR SCIPIO?
I'M LIKE ONE OF THOSE HEROINE FROM ROMANCE NOVELS...
TORN BETWEEN TWO MEN.

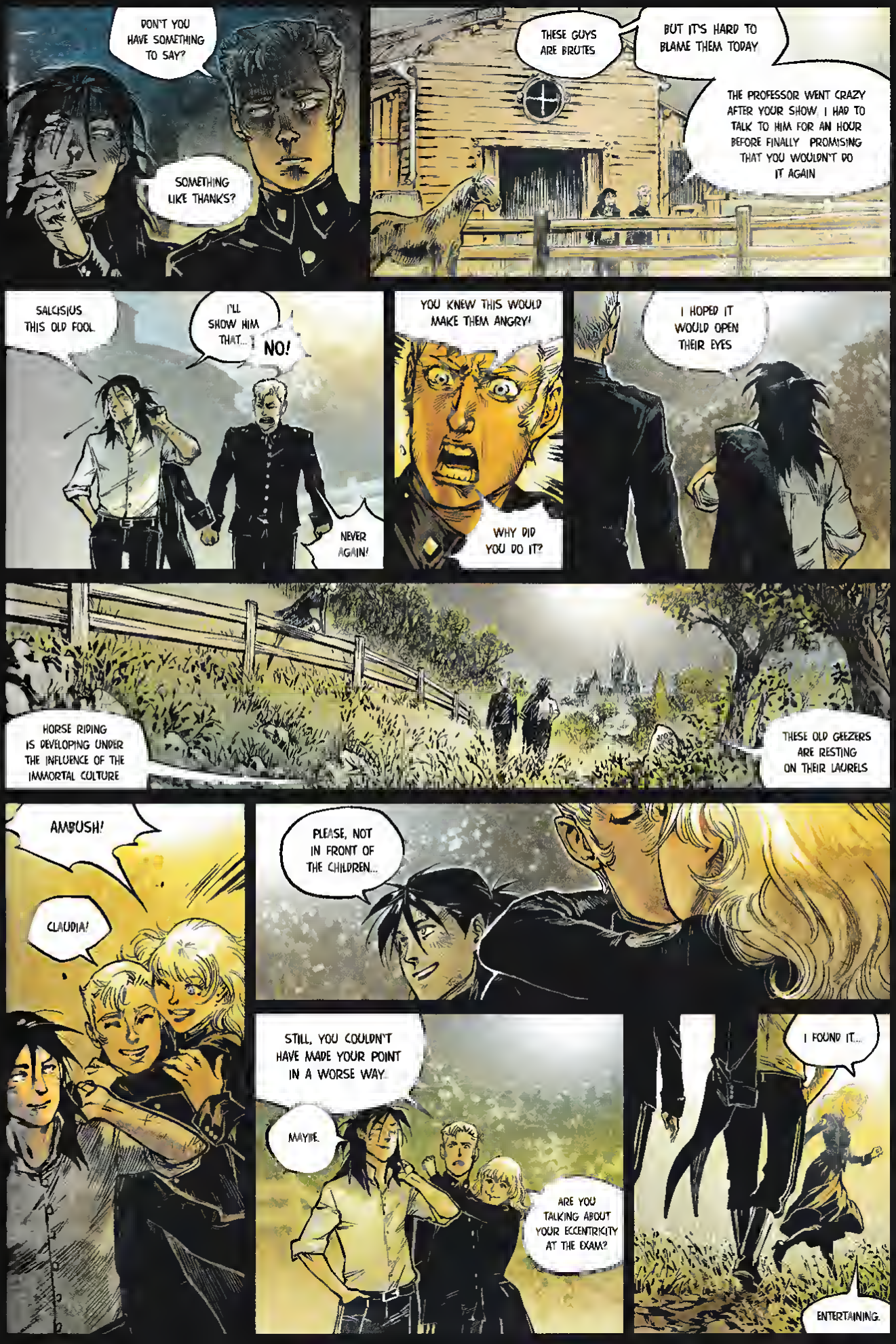
4 years later...
THIS AELIUS REALLY IS A GOOD ELEMENT
HE GETS THE BEST OUT OF HIS HORSE, BUT ALSO OUT OF HIS PARTNERS THANKS TO HIS NATURAL LEADERSHIP
CLEC
WHA-?
THIS BARBARIC MUSIK WAS NOT ON THE PROGRAM!
CAN SOMEONE PLEASE GET EVERYTHING BACK IN ORDER?
OH NO!
?
?
HE'S ACTUALLY GOING TO DO IT

I was Born in a CroSs-Fire hUrricane*



THIS EXERCISE COULD HAVE BEEN PERFECT
STILL, ALL OF THIS WITHOUT SADDLE NOR NET...
DAMN IT!
TOO BAD ONE OF YOU SAW FIT TO MAKE SUCH A SPECTACLE.

BAK
HIIIIII
DOM
HIIIIIII
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
DOM
PoF
STOP THIS RIGHT NOW!
GET OUT OF HERE, AELIUS, WE'RE NOT AFTER YOU
YEAH WELL YOU'LL STILL HAVE TO GET PAST ME!
AT LEAST HE TRIED TO CHANGE THE EXERCISE THAT WE ALL SAID WAS OBSOLETE BEHIND THE TEACHER'S BACK!
BECAUSE OF THIS STUPID CLOWN WE'LL HAVE TO TAKE CLASSES DURING THE HOLIDAYS!
IT'LL TAKE MUCH MORE TO FIX YOUR INBORN STUPIDITY
REPEAT THAT YOU SMARTASS!
WHY? DIDN'T GET ME THE FIRST TIME?
I'M GONNA BEAT YOU UP!
ENOUGH!
NOW GO AWAY BEFORE I GET ANGRY
YOU WON'T ALWAYS HAVE YOUR BABYSITTER TO PROTECT YOU, SCIPIO OF THE SPIDER
AND YOU WON'T ALWAYS BE WITH GAIUS AND LEPTO

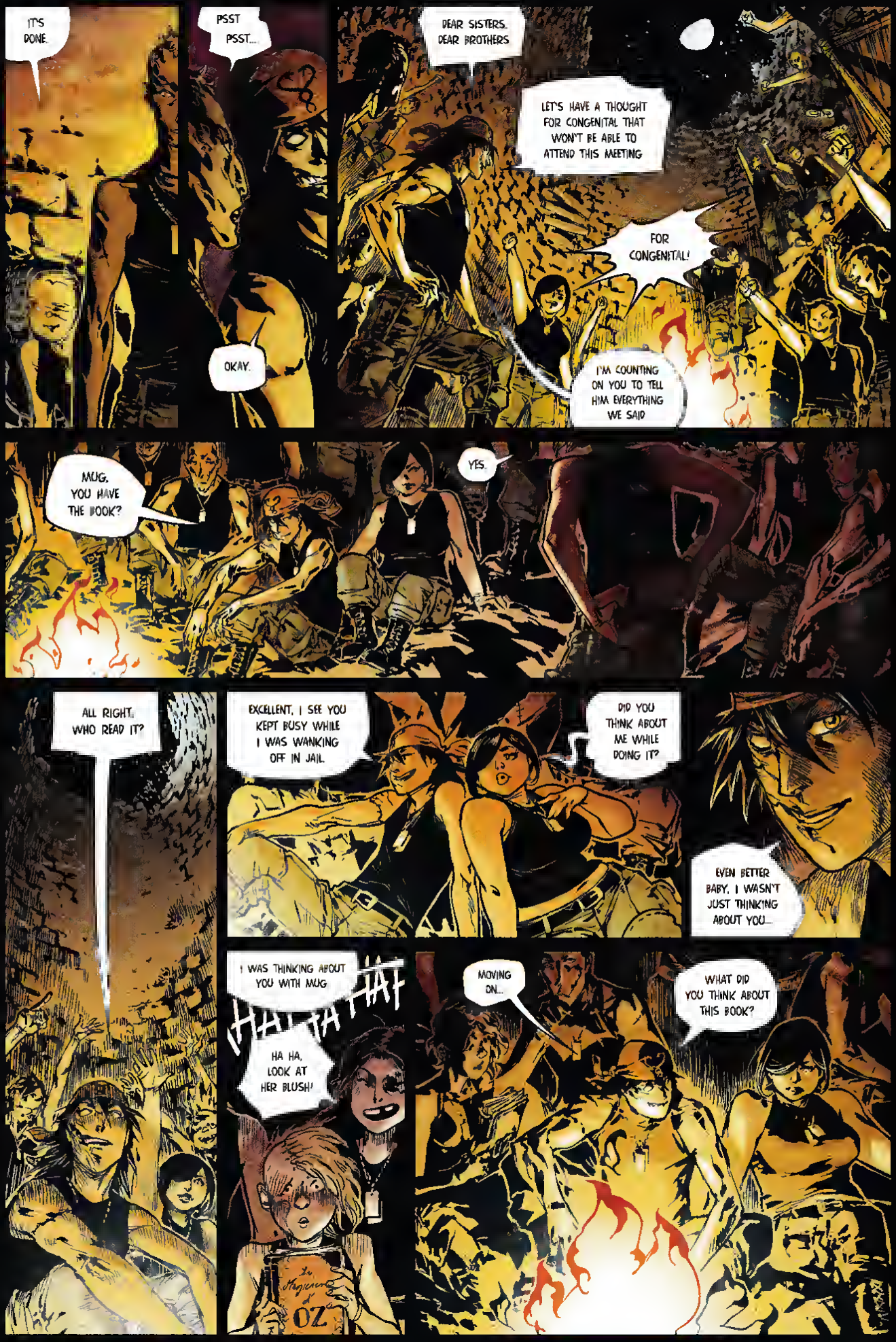

DON'T YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY?
SOMETHING LIKE THANKS?
THESE GUYS ARE BRUTES
BUT IT'S HARD TO BLAME THEM TODAY
THE PROFESSOR WENT CRAZY AFTER YOUR SHOW. I HAD TO TALK TO HIM FOR AN HOUR BEFORE FINALLY PROMISING THAT YOU WOULDN'T DO IT AGAIN
SALCISIUS THIS OLD FOOL
I'LL SHOW HIM THAT...
NO!
NEVER AGAIN!
YOU KNEW THIS WOULD MAKE THEM ANGRY!
WHY DID YOU DO IT?
I HOPED IT WOULD OPEN THEIR EYES
HORSE RIDING IS DEVELOPING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF THE IMMORTAL CULTURE
THESE OLD GEEZERS ARE RESTING ON THEIR LAURELS
AMBUSH!
CLAUDIA!
PLEASE, NOT IN FRONT OF THE CHILDREN...
STILL, YOU COULDN'T HAVE MADE YOUR POINT IN A WORSE WAY.
MAYBE.
ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT YOUR ECCENTRICITY AT THE EXAM?
I FOUND IT...
ENTERTAINING.

NIF
NIF
NIF
SQUEELE!!
SNEAKY AS A MOUSE?
CRAK
CLEL
619
NUMBER 619. TIME TO BREATHE SOME FRESH AIR
SCHKING
FINALLY.

NUMBER 619
YOU HAVE SERVED YOUR SENTENCE FOR YOUR INSUBORDINATION AND TROUBLE TO THE CAMP ORDER
WE CAN EXTEND THIS SENTENCE. WILL IT BE NECESSARY?
NO, CAPTAIN. I LEARNED MY LESSON, CAPTAIN
I'M DONE WITH NIGHT MEETINGS, CAPTAIN
GOOD.
YOU CAN REJOIN YOUR UNIT
THANKS, CAPTAIN!
AND DON'T MAKE ME REGRET THIS!
YOU WON'T, CAPTAIN.
YOU REALLY THINK HE'S THE ONE THAT STOLE BOOKS FROM THE LIBRARY?
NOBODY WENT THERE UNTIL NOW
MAYBE ONE OF OUR MOST ZEALOUS MEN OVERDID IT AND TOOK SOME OF THE MOST SENSIBLE ONES?
MAYBE BUT WHAT'S SURE IS THAT IN TWO MONTHS WE'LL FINALLY BE RID OF 619 AND HIS GANG OF TROUBLEMAKERS
THE CAMP WILL BE QUIET AGAIN
PROBABLY
PROBABLY

PRAETOR IS BACK!
HURRAY!
SHIT, AND ALL THIS TIME I HOPED YOU WOULD HAVE LEARNED TO LIVE WITHOUT ME..
MAMMOTH, YOU PUT ON SOME WEIGHT!
ONE MONTH IN JAIL AND YOU'RE STILL AN IDIOT
WE'VE PLENTY OF STUFF TO TELL YOU, BOSS
POUC
YOU ALRIGHT? I HOPE YOU WEREN'T TOO BORED?
NOT AT ALL! I HAD TIME TO DEVELOP MY MUSCLES.
TOUCH IT.
TOUCH IT.
TOUCH IT, SEE HOW IT'S HARD.
DID YOU MISS ME THAT MUCH?
I WOULDN'T LIKE TO BE THE NEXT ONE IN JAIL THE WALLS MUST BE COVERED IN YOUR OFFSPRING!
WHAT SHOULD WE DO FOR TONIGHT'S MEETING?
YOU CAN'T GET CAUGHT AGAIN
IT TAKES MORE THAN THAT TO BREAK ME
WE'RE DOING THE MEETING
GREAT!
WE DIDN'T EXPECT LESS OF YOU
LET'S DO PLAN 9 FOR TONIGHT...

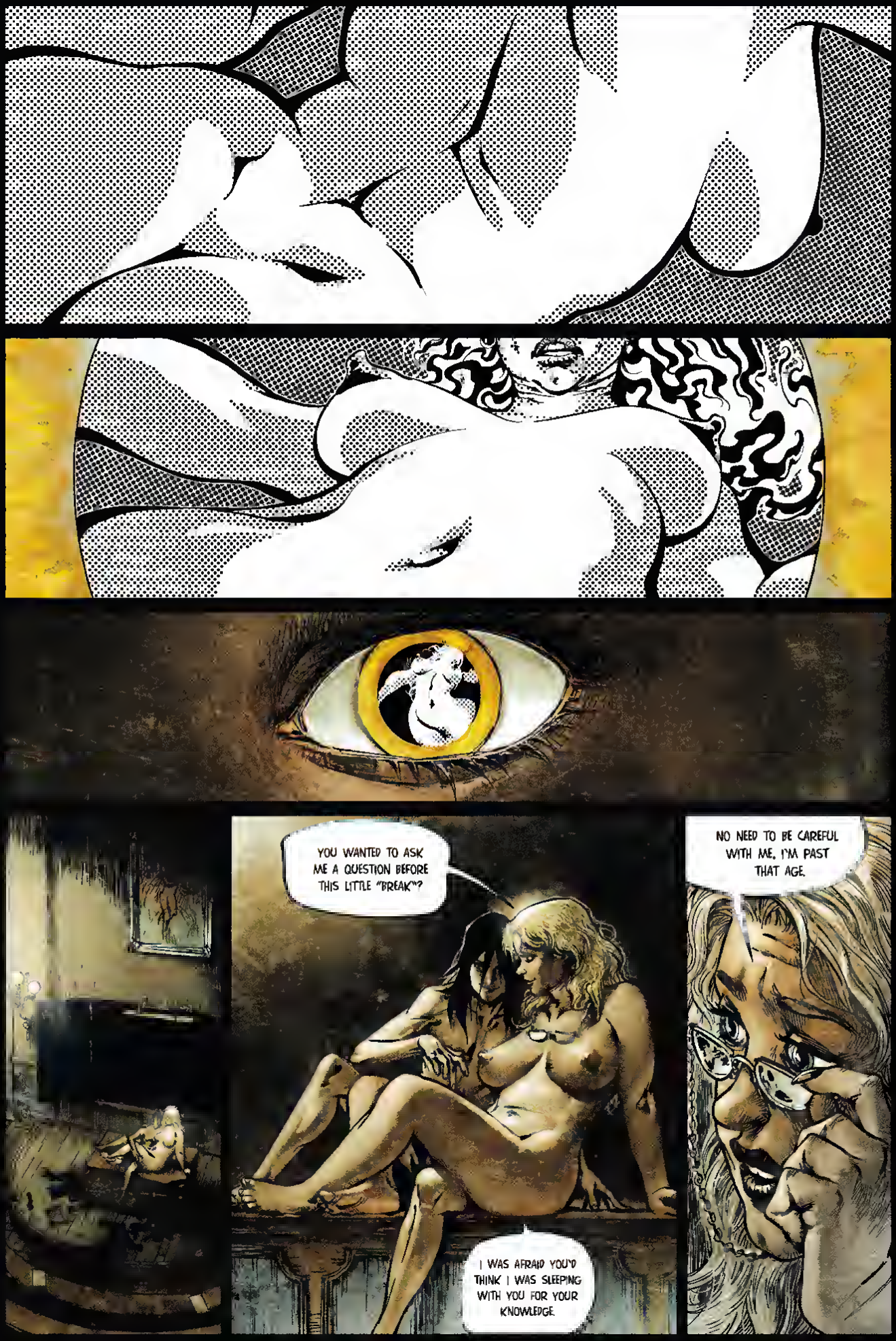
TOK TOK TOK
I'M COMING!
WHAT?! NOT YOU AGAIN!
SERGEANT, I THINK THAT...
NOT ON THE CARPET! NOT ON THE CARPET!
WERK WERK WERK
WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO WITH THIS DEAD RAT?
I FOUND IT IN MY DISH SIR, IT SHOWS THAT SOMEONE IS TRYING TO KILL ME!
THIS WILL LAST A WHILE...


IT'S DONE.
PSST PSST...
OKAY.
DEAR SISTERS, DEAR BROTHERS
LET'S HAVE A THOUGHT FOR CONGENITAL THAT WON'T BE ABLE TO ATTEND THIS MEETING
FOR CONGENITAL!
I'M COUNTING ON YOU TO TELL HIM EVERYTHING WE SAID
MUG, YOU HAVE THE BOOK?
YES.
ALL RIGHT, WHO READ IT?
EXCELLENT, I SEE YOU KEPT BUSY WHILE I WAS WANKING OFF IN JAIL.
DID YOU THINK ABOUT ME WHILE DOING IT?
EVEN BETTER BABY, I WASN'T JUST THINKING ABOUT YOU...
I WAS THINKING ABOUT YOU WITH MUG
HA HA HA HA
HA HA, LOOK AT HER BLUSH!
MOVING ON...
WHAT DID YOU THINK ABOUT THIS BOOK?
OZ

I THINK I SAW A HIDDEN MESSAGE IN IT, BOSS
YES, GARGOYLE?
I THINK THAT THE HEROINE'S QUEST IS RELATED TO THE ECONOMIC CRISIS. THE TORNADO REPRESENTS BRUTAL CHANGE THAT SWEEPS EVERYTHING IN ITS WAY
THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD COULD BE A METAPHOR FOR THE GOLD STANDARD
NICELY THOUGHT.
I SEE YOU'RE STILL READING ALL THE NEWSPAPERS THAT THE GENERAL THROWS AWAY.
MAYBE, BUT I SAW MORE OF A QUEST FOR ELEVATING THE SOUL IN IT.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
NOW THAT'S BIG TALK. YOU'LL HAVE TO BE CONVINCING
WELL...
THROUGH THE SECONDARY CHARACTERS THE AUTHOR CLEARLY SHOWS THE QUALITIES THAT THE HEROINE WILL HAVE TO DEVELOP THROUGH HER ADVENTURE
BRAINS
HEART
AND GUTS.
THE FAMOUS MIND-BODY-SOUL TRINITY ALL THREE BEING INTIMATELY LINKED TOGETH...
EXCELLENT. SO WE ALREADY HAVE THREE INTERPRETATIONS OF THE STORY, IF WE COUNT THE BASIC ONE.
ANYONE TO FIND ME A FOURTH ONE?
YES, MUG.
I THOUGHT ABOUT THE STATUS OF PSYCHOPOMP. JUDGE OF SOULS OF THE WIZARD FROM THE TITLE
MAYBE THAT, JUST LIKE THE MASTER CROW THE REAPER AND THE EXECUTIONER, THE WIZARD IS ONLY ONE SIDE OF THE HYPOSTASIS DEATH
OZ
WHAT'S FUNNY IN THE END IS TO THINK THAT OUR ACTIONS WILL BE JUDGED BY A FRAUD
EXCELLENT, MUG!

YOU HAVE ALWAYS BEEN MY FAVORITE, LUCIANNE.
CLIN
DO NOT THINK I KEPT YOUR SISTER AROUND TO BE MEAN
CLIN CLIN CLIN CLIN
I ONLY DID IT SO THAT YOU COULD UNDERSTAND HER SACRIFICE.
HER BODY...
FOR YOUR PERFECTION
CLIN CLIN CLIN CLIN
MOTHER
IS IT TRUE WHAT THEY SAY?
WHAT DO THEY SAY?
CLIN CLIN CLIN
THAT YOU WERE BORN UNIQUE.
THAT YOU AND YOUR SISTER COMPLETELY MERGED AND THAT NOW...
SHE SPEAKS TO YOU INSIDE YOUR HEAD
Hello honey.
I thought you would never remember me.

What's wrong, girl?
Are you scared of me?
HEY! SLOW DOWN!
CALM DOWN...
SHE'S CRAZY AND I'M JUST LIKE HER!
THE JAR... I CAN'T FIND IT WHAT IF... WHAT IF IT'S NOT MY SISTER INSIDE IT
HERE, CALM DOWN
WHAT IF I WAS BORN UNIQUE?
I NEED PROOF THAT SHE EXISTED
TAKE YOUR MEDICINE AND GO TO SLEEP. I CAME WITH GOOD NEWS. GREAT VARANE CHARISMA IS SATISFIED OF MY WORK. YOU CAN STAY HERE A WHILE LONGER.
WHAT DAY IS IT? HOW LONG HAVE I BEEN AWAY?
THE COUNCIL OF THE NINE IS WISHING YOU A SPEEDY RECOVERY. BUT TO HEAL, YOU NEED TO DRINK THIS...
ALL RIGHT DRINK EVERYTHING
IT WILL TAKE ALL YOUR PROBLEMS AWAY


YOU WANTED TO ASK ME A QUESTION BEFORE THIS LITTLE "BREAK"?
I WAS AFRAID YOU'D THINK I WAS SLEEPING WITH YOU FOR YOUR KNOWLEDGE.
NO NEED TO BE CAREFUL WITH ME, I'M PAST THAT AGE.

LET'S DIG RIGHT IN, THEN
IF I MULTIPLY THE HARMONICS, WON'T IT DAMAGE THE LINK WITH THE CATALYST?
IF YOU HAD READ MY REPORT MORE CAREFULLY YOU'D KNOW THAT SEVEN FREQUENCIES ARE ENOUGH
EVEN THOUGH THE ENCODING WILL BE NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE TO CRACK WITH TWELVE.
WE TRIED WITH FIFTEEN BUT THE METASPECTATORS CAN'T KEEP UP WITH SO MANY LEVELS OF SUPERPOSITION
STOP WIGGLING THOSE CURVES OR I WON'T BE ABLE TO KEEP UP
SCIPIO, YOU FLATTERER.
I THINK THAT WITH BETTER TRAINED METASPECTATORS WE COULD INCREASE THE HARMONICS WE'D REACH A CRITICAL INTIMACY THAT WOULD ECHO IN THE TELESPECTATORS WHICH WOULD IN TURN INFLUENCE THE METASPECTATORS IN A NEARLY INFINITE LOOP
THE CHANNELER WOULD HAVE AN INFINITE ENERGY SOURCE AT HIS DISPOSAL
HMM...
IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE BUT YOU'D NEED A GROUP OF HANDPICKED METASPECTATORS AND YOU'D NEED TO BE WARY OF TOO MUCH EXCITEMENT IN THAT GROUP, IT COULD BE DISASTROUS
BUT TELL ME, YOU'RE A BIT TOO KNOWLEDGEABLE FOR AN INNOCENT SCIENCE APPRENTICE.
ONLY CURIOUS
YOU'RE LYING, YOUNG MAN. SCIENCE IS ONLY A MEANS TO YOU
NOT A GOAL
I SAW IT IN YOUR EYES.
BUT I ONLY HAVE EYES FOR YOU, HEDY
YOU DIRTY BOY

CPA
BRAVO!
MAGNIFICENT!
YOU REALLY HAD NOTHING BETTER TO DO THAN TO FIGHT ON THE EVE OF RECRUITMENT DAY?
YOU ALL LOOK LIKE SHIT! I THOUGHT THAT AFTER ALL THIS TIME WITH ME YOU'D BE SMARTER!
GO DIE ON THE FRONT THEN. I HOPE TO NEVER SEE YOUR FACES AGAIN!
MARIUS OF THE CENTIPEDE RECRUITER FOR THE IST LEGION
YOU GET IN THE IST LEGION RANKS
YOU TOO.
TSK...
TSSSSK...
NOT IN MY LEGION.

WE WON'T BE IN THE 1ST
OR THE 2ND.
HAVE YOU SEEN THAT GUY? THE STICK IN HIS ASS IS SO BIG HE DOESN'T EVEN TOUCH THE GROUND ANYMORE
I DOUBT HE'LL LIKE US
WHO'S THE WOMAN THAT'S DRINKING? THE ONE WITH A KID
I CAN'T SEE HER INSIGNIA FROM HERE
THAT'S LIEUTENANT SCRUTE FROM THE 13TH LEGION.
SHE'LL CHOOSE LAST BECAUSE OF HER RANK
YOU.
YOU.
GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR ASSIGNMENT
YOU, COME WITH ME
THANK YOU, I WON'T FORGET YOU!
WE'LL SEE EACH OTHER ON THE FRONT
YOU. YOU'RE JOINING THE 9TH
FAREWELL, FRIENDS
YOU.
YOU.
I'LL MISS YOU.
...
...
Y...
AHEM!
...
I GUESS NOT

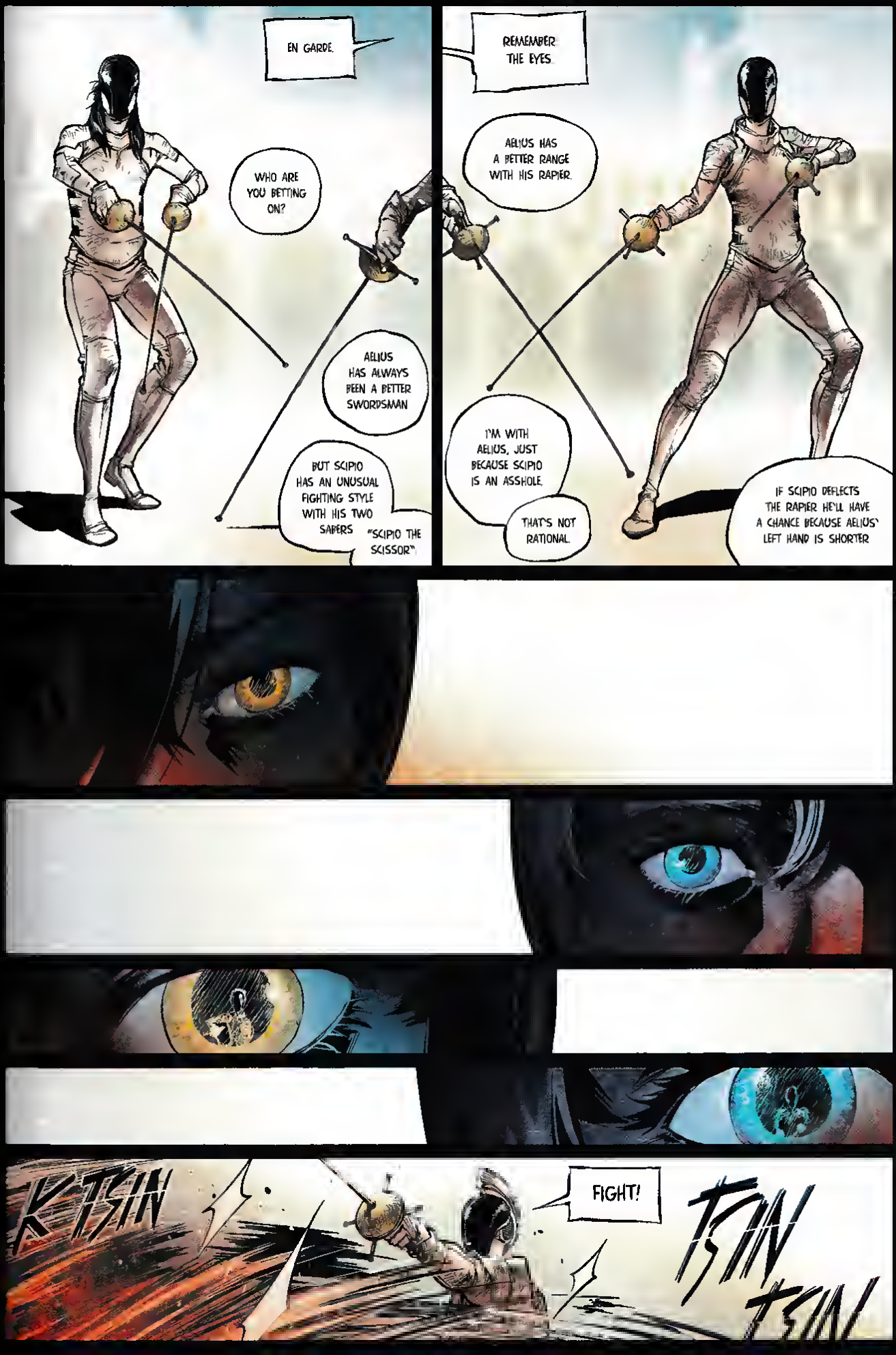
SCRUTE OF THE LIZARD, RECRUITER FOR THE 13TH LEGION.
CRÄ
WHAT DO YOU THINK, DOUGAL?
I THINK THEY'RE A BIG PILE OF SHIT!
YEAH, YOU'RE A BIG PILE OF SHIT THAT NOBODY WANTS
LET THAT GO, K'ID.
YOU NOW BELONG TO THE 13TH LEGION
CRÄ
CRÄ
WAAOUH!!!
WE'LL STAY TOGETHER!
NOTHING WILL HAPPEN TO US NOW! WE'RE TOGETHER!
STOP SHAKING ME, I'M HURT EVERYWHERE!
WOOUHOO
I UNDERSTAND YOUR HAPPINESS, BUT PLEASE DON'T MAKE BABIES HERE.
BEAVER TAKE THAT LIST TO THE SERGEANT
CONSIDER IT DONE SCRUTE.
SCRUTE THE PROSTITUTE!

SERGEANT, HERE'S THE LIST FOR THE 13TH
FINALLY!
WHAT NOW?
YOU REALLY LOOK LIKE A FUCKING SCUMBAG!
NOW KID, I'VE FLAYED PEOPLE FOR LESS!
AND YOU'RE THE ONE LOOKING LIKE A MONSTER!
WANNA FIGHT?
DOUGAL, STOP...
PLEASE...
IMMA MAKE YOU EAT YOUR TEETH!
NOW THAT'S ENOUGH!
AHEM!
SERGEANT.
TSSK!
YOU AGAIN!
I HOPE YOU'RE HAPPY, YOU AND YOUR LITTLE GANG YOU'LL STAY TOGETHER BUT YOU'RE GOING STRAIGHT TO HELL WITH THE 13TH
WE'LL MISS YOU SERGEANT.
I HAVE A GIFT FOR YOU AS A SOUVENIR OF OUR TIME TOGETHER.
I... ERR...
THANK YOU, KID...
NOW THAT'S A SURPRISE!
...

HMM..
HA HA HA!
CHIN UP! WE'RE FINALLY LEAVING!
HASTA LA VISTA BABY!
COME ON ROOKIES, GET OFF!
HELLO
'LLO
ARE YOU FEELING LOST?
THAT'S ALRIGHT
I'LL BE HERE TO HELP YOU THROUGH YOUR TRAINING, AS MY SENIORS DID FOR ME.

THE FIGHT IS OVER!
WELL DONE, AELIUS
SO WHY DO YOU THINK LEPTO LOST RIGHT NOW?
BECAUSE HE SUCKS AND AELIUS IS THE BEST?
HAHAHA!!
HAHA!!
HAHA!
THANK YOU MEGAERA FOR THIS ANSWER FULL OF COMMON SENSE. GOOD, I NEEDED SOMEONE FOR MY DEMONSTRATION
MEGAERA, YOU'LL BE LEPTO AND I'LL BE AELIUS
SINCE YOU'RE AWAITING MY NEXT MOVE YOU'RE GOING FOCUS ON MY EYES, HOPING TO ANTICIPATE MY NEXT MOVE
EN GARDE!
ATTACK WHEN YOU WANT

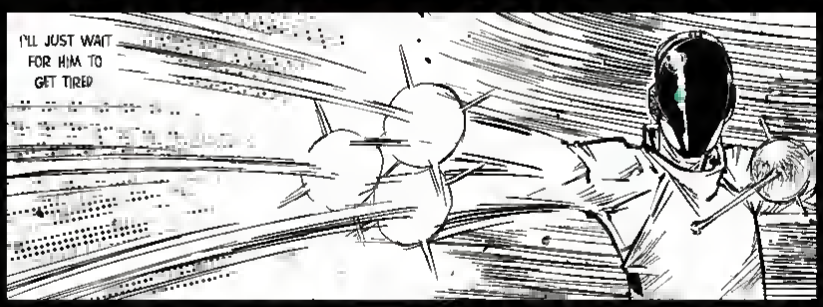
FIGHT OVER
A POST-MORTEM ANALYSIS?
COME ON, GIVE IT A TRY
ANY IDEA OF HOW I MANAGED TO DO IT?
QUESTION FOR MEGAERA
YES, SCIPIO?
DID HE DULL YOUR REFLEXES BY HYPNOTIZING YOU?
NO
I WAS FOCUSED, AS USUAL.
I WAS LOOKING HIM IN THE EYES AND THEN I JUST HAD HIS SWORD IN MY FACE
I GOT IT
IT'S BECAUSE OF YOUR CENTRAL FIELD OF VISION
TO MAKE IT SIMPLE, THE REFRESH RATE IN THE CENTER IS AROUND 3 TO 5 FRAME PER SECOND
BUT YOUR PERIPHERAL VISION IS AROUND 70 TO 100 BUT THINGS ARE BLURRY AND COLORS BECOME PROGRESSIVELY IMPERCEPTIBLE
GOOD!
AT LEAST ONE OF YOU MADE THE CONNECTION WITH HIS ANATOMY CLASS
BUT THIS IS ONLY THEORY
SCIPIO, COME AND SHOW US ALL THIS WITH AELIUS ON THE "BATTLEFIELD"
HERE'S HOW IT WORKS YOU HAVE TO WATCH WITHOUT SEEING
DON'T FOCUS ON A SPECIFIC POINT, IT'LL JUST BE A HANDICAP TO YOU
IT'S EASIER SAID THAN DONE. WILL YOU BE ABLE TO DO IT?
YES

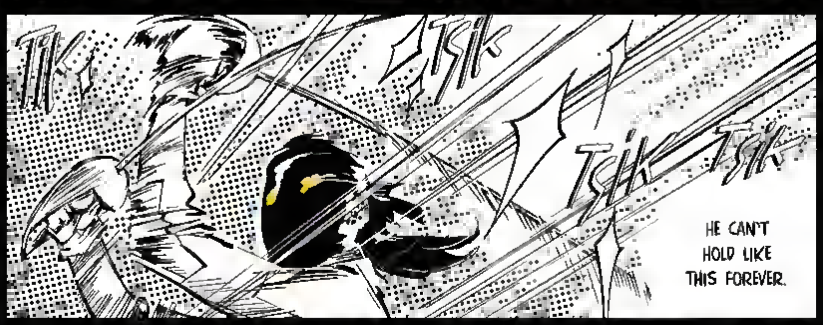

EN GARDE.
WHO ARE YOU BETTING ON?
AELIUS HAS ALWAYS BEEN A BETTER SWORDSMAN
BUT SCIPIO HAS AN UNUSUAL FIGHTING STYLE WITH HIS TWO SABERS
"SCIPIO THE SCISSOR".
REMEMBER THE EYES.
AELIUS HAS A BETTER RANGE WITH HIS RAPIER.
I'M WITH AELIUS, JUST BECAUSE SCIPIO IS AN ASSHOLE.
THAT'S NOT RATIONAL.
IF SCIPIO DEFLECTS THE RAPIER HE'LL HAVE A CHANCE BECAUSE AELIUS' LEFT HAND IS SHORTER
FIGHT!
TSIN
TSIN
TSIN

TSAK
TSAK
TSAK
TSAK
TSAK
FSHHH
DAMN!
WOW!!!
K-TSIN
TA-TSAK!
TSAK!
TSH

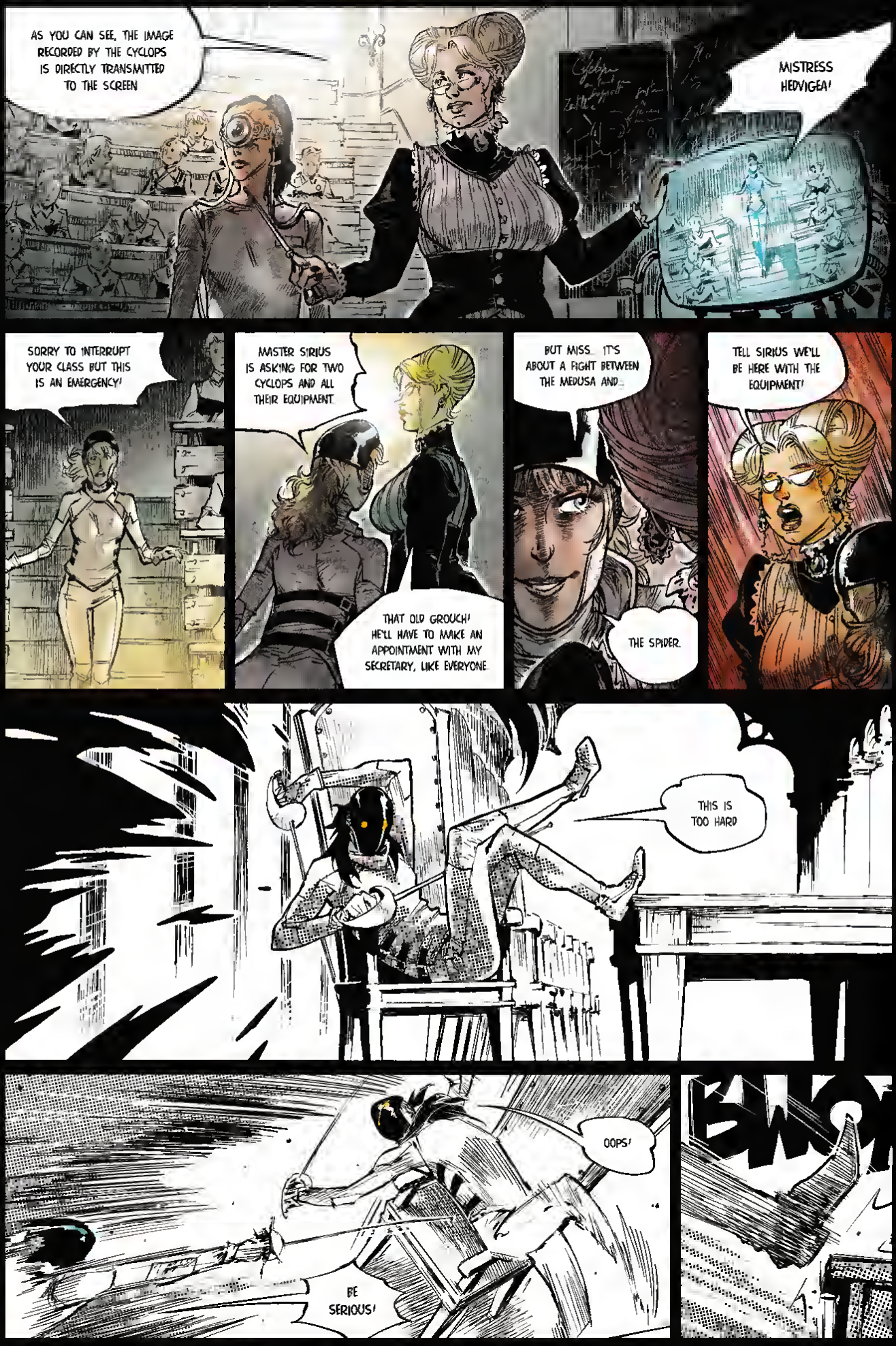
HIS AREA IS WELL PROTECTED BUT I'M MORE POWERFUL.

HE'S FAST
A REAL TORNADO
I CAN SEE...


I'LL JUST WAIT FOR HIM TO GET TIRED


TSIK
TSIK
TSIK
HE CAN'T HOLD LIKE THIS FOREVER.

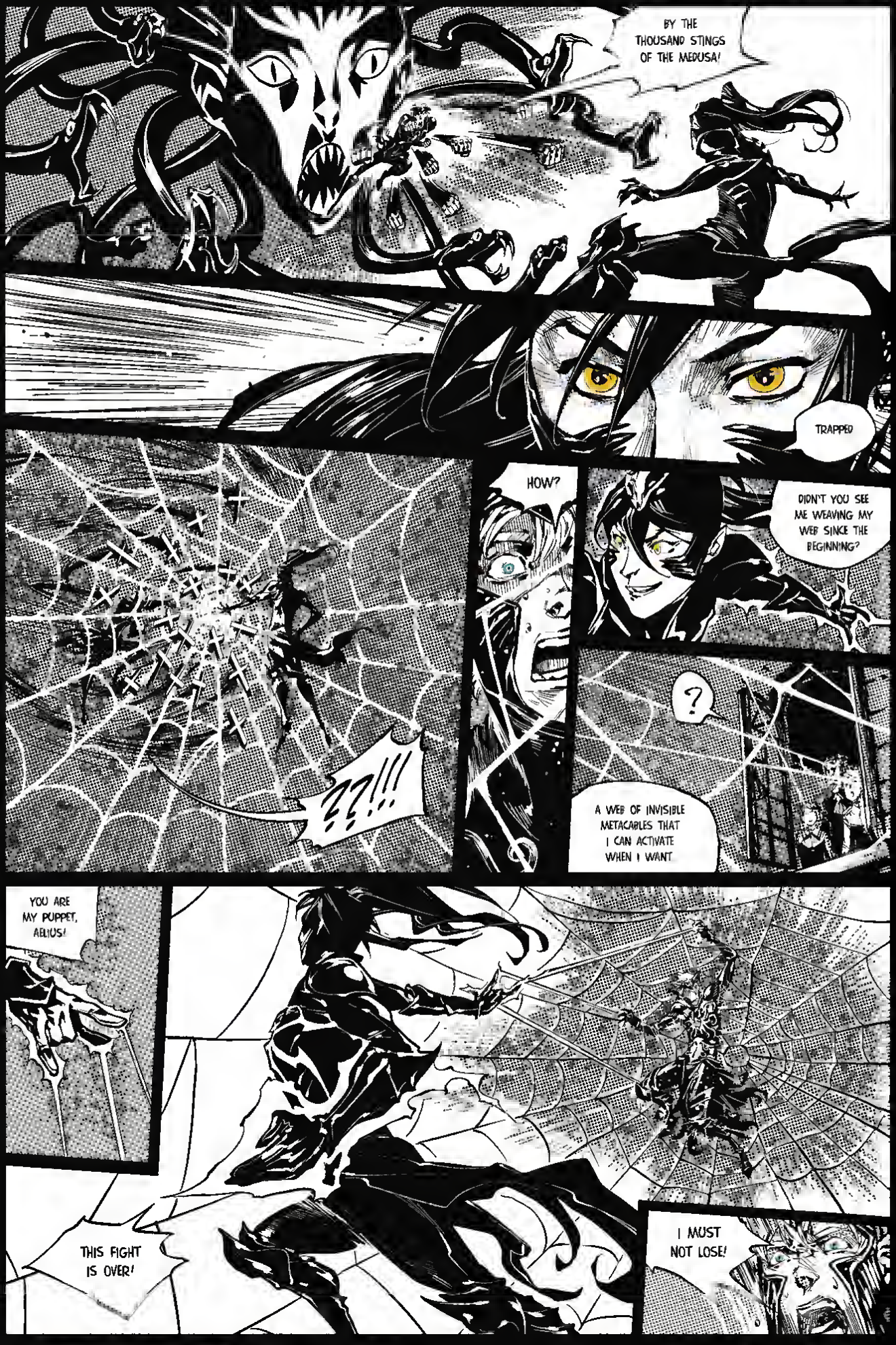
CLAUDIA, GO AND GET ME TWO CYCLOPS AND THEIR GLADIATORS ARMORS.
WHY ME?
DO YOU WANT TO SEE THESE TWO AT THEIR BEST? THEN GO!

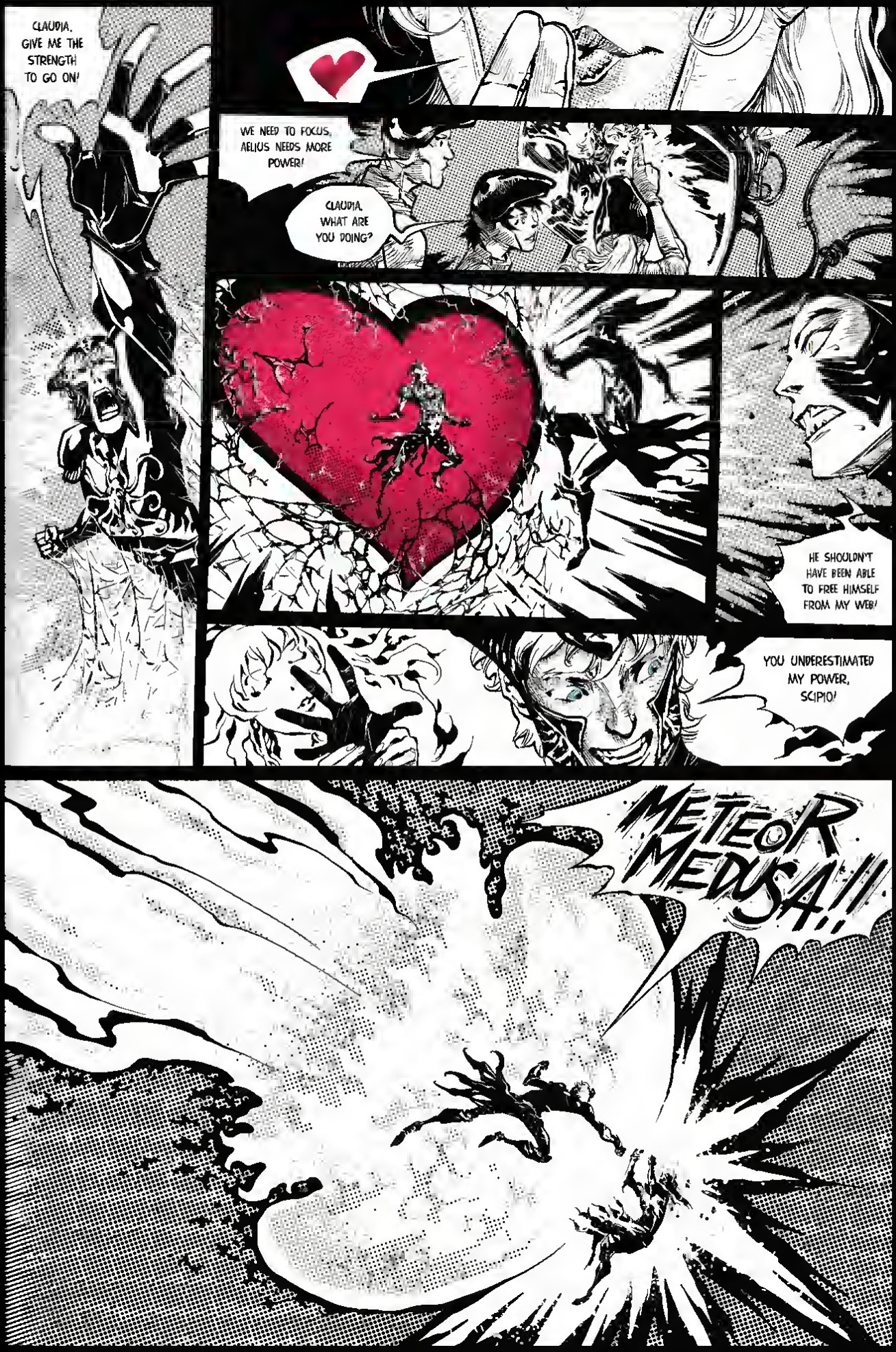

AS YOU CAN SEE, THE IMAGE RECORDED BY THE CYCLOPS IS DIRECTLY TRANSMITTED TO THE SCREEN
MISTRESS HEDVIGEA!
SORRY TO INTERRUPT YOUR CLASS BUT THIS IS AN EMERGENCY!
MASTER SIRIUS IS ASKING FOR TWO CYCLOPS AND ALL THEIR EQUIPMENT
THAT OLD GROUCH! HE'LL HAVE TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT WITH MY SECRETARY, LIKE EVERYONE
BUT MISS... IT'S ABOUT A FIGHT BETWEEN THE MEDUSA AND...
THE SPIDER.
TELL SIRIUS WE'LL BE HERE WITH THE EQUIPMENT!
THIS IS TOO HARD
OOPS!
BE SERIOUS!
BWOK

HA HA!
MISSED!
YOU'LL ONLY GET TIRED TWIRLING LIKE THAT!
HA HA! YOU'RE SHOWING OFF!
DID YOU SEE?
SEE WHAT?
THEY'RE COMING WITH CYCLOPS WHAT POWER DO YOU THINK WE'LL GET?
THE BRONZE GLADIATOR ARMOR I DON'T THINK THEY WANT US TO TEAR EVERYTHING APART.

FINALLY! YOU TOOK YOUR TIME!
TZIG TZAG TZIG
HEY, THERE'S GONNA BE A FIGHT!
SO?
CALM DOWN, THESE THINGS ARE DELICATE!
OKAY. THEY'RE SYNCHRONIZED
FIND ME TWO TEAMS OF THREE METASPECTATORS.
ALL RIGHT AGATHON, JULIUS AND EUROPA FOR TEAM SCIPIO
MIRIA, GLADIUS AND
ME!
CLAUDIA FOR TEAM AELIUS
SHOW ME SOME GOOD STUFF, NO CHEATING, WE'RE DOING THIS RIGHT!
YES, SIR!
I'M CONNECTING THE AMPLIFICATOR!

I FEEL THE POWER IN ME!
WE'RE FINALLY GOING TO GET SERIOUS!
BY THE POWERS VESTED IN ME...
I SUMMON...
THE MEDUSA!
THE SPIDER!


BY THE THOUSAND STINGS OF THE MEDUSA!
TRAPPED
HOW?
DIDN'T YOU SEE ME WEAVING MY WEB SINCE THE BEGINNING?
?
A WEB OF INVISIBLE METACABLES THAT I CAN ACTIVATE WHEN I WANT
?!!!
YOU ARE MY PUPPET, AELIUS!
THIS FIGHT IS OVER!
I MUST NOT LOSE!


CLAUDIA, GIVE ME THE STRENGTH TO GO ON!
WE NEED TO FOCUS, AELIUS NEEDS MORE POWER!
CLAUDIA, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
HE SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO FREE HIMSELF FROM MY WEB!
YOU UNDERESTIMATED MY POWER, SCIPIO!
METEOR MEDUSA!!

THE FIGHT IS OVER.
BRAVO!! AELIUS!!
MAGNUS AELIUS!
SCISSOR SCIPIO!
WAS I DREAMING OR DID THE GREAT AELIUS CHEAT?
NOT AT ALL.
THAT ATTACK WAS BY THE RULES.
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN IF ALL THE METASPECTATORS HAD BEEN NEUTRAL.
YOU PREPARED EVERYTHING WITH CLAUDIA YOU KNEW THAT WE WOULD FIGHT SOONER OR LATER AND THAT YOU'D NEED A JOKER. SO YOU SYNCHRONIZED IN SECRET.
I COULDN'T LOSE I'M THEIR HERO
SEE HOW THEY CHEER FOR ME!

MAGNUS AELIUS!!
MAGNUS AELIUS!!
MAGNUS AELIUS!
BRAVO!
GREAT FIGHT!
YOU TAUGHT ME A GREAT LESSON TODAY.
SCISSOR SCIPIO!
BRAVO!
TSAP
TSAP
TSAP
MISS SCIPIO.
I THINK I FOUND A WAY TO CREATE AN HARMONIC RESONANCE BETWEEN THE METASPECTATORS AND THE CHANNELER
WE'LL HAVE TO STUDY THIS... MORE DEEPLY.
I HAD AN ORGASM WHILE YOU WERE UP THERE.
MEET ME IN OUR HIDEOUT IN FIFTEEN MINUTES.
DON'T BE LATE I DON'T KNOW HOW I'LL CONTAIN MYSELF WAITING FOR YOU
I THINK I DO
AND DON'T YOU DARE TAKE THIS ARMOR OFF.

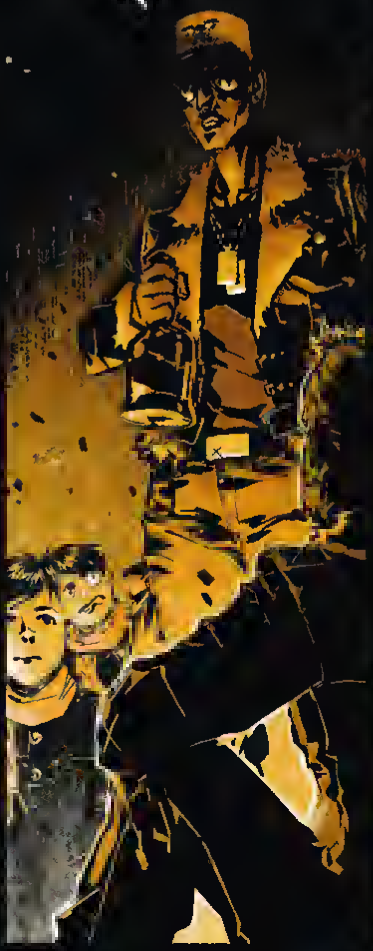
SCHKLIN SCHKLIN
COME ON, GET INTO IT! I'D LIKE TO GET TO CAMP BEFORE GETTING OLD
FOUTEZ-VOUS BANDE DE SALES CULS MERDEUX J'IRAI CHIER SUR VOS MERES
DOESN'T HE EVER SHUT UP?
HE CAN'T, IT'S COMPULSIVE.
TOURETTE SYNDROME.
TOURETTE?
IT'S A NEURO-PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER THE COPROLALIA SORT
COPROLALIA? LIKE HAVING SHIT ON YOUR TONGUE?
YEAH LIKE A VERBAL DIARRHEA
SOUNDS LIKE THE DISEASE OF OUR DEAR SERGEANT...
IT MUST BE HARD FOR YOU
MY COCK IN YOUR MOUTH IS WHAT'S HARD!
IT'S JUST A MATTER OF HABIT.
AND YOU NEVER GET HIT BECAUSE OF HIM?
WHY DO YOU THINK HE'S IN MY SERVICE?
HE'S MAKING EVERYONE CRAZY AT BASECAMP
NOW GENIUSES, WALK INSTEAD OF CHATTING!
WE'D ALREADY BE THERE IF WE HAD HAD SOME MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION
EVEN JUST TO LIGHTEN OUR LOAD
LOOK, YOU IDIOT...
I'M DRINKING YOUR MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION!
AT THE GOVERNMENT'S EXPENSE!
NICE.

SCHKLIN
SCHKLIN
SCHKLIN
SCH
SCH
TOO BAD MUG COULDN'T COME WITH US SHE'S AN INTELLIGENT GIRL WITH A BIG HEART
THAT'S PRECISELY WHY SHE'S PERFECT TO CONTINUE THE READING SESSIONS WITH THE NEW GUYS
SHE'S TOO YOUNG TO BE RECRUITED WITH US ANYWAY...
HAALT!!
OOPS, SORRY.
HEY!
'SHOLE!
CAREFUL!
ARF!
?
?
?
WE'LL CAMP 300M DOWN FROM HERE FOR THE NIGHT
FIRE TEAM, GO AND GET SOME WOOD FOR THE FIRE. SHELTER TEAM, MAKE US SOMETHING WARM AND COMFORTABLE!
BUT...
LIEUTENANT, WE STILL HAVE FIVE HOURS OF DAYLIGHT AHEAD OF US!
I THOUGHT WE WERE IN A HURRY
YOU TALK TOO MUCH, KID
NOW GO IF YOU DON'T WANT TO CARRY MY BAG TO NAMUR!

LIEUTENANT, WHERE DID YOU SERVE BEFORE BEING A RECRUITER?
CALL ME SCRUTE.
ONLY SCRUTE.
TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTION JUST LOOK AT THE 13TH RECORD IN THE LAST TWENTY YEARS

WERE YOU IN THE HUNDRED DAYS' WAR?
YEP.
LASTED A BIT MORE THAN THAT, ACTUALLY...
A BLOODY MESS.

WELL! SINCE YOU SEEM TO LIKE STORIES TOLD AROUND A FIRE, LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT SIOBHAN, THE MAID OF ARK.
WE KNOW THIS STORY... IT'S BEEN USED A THOUSAND TIMES FOR PROPAGANDA.
WE DON'T FUCKING CARE!
SHE DIES AT THE END!
CAN'T YOU SHUT UP? I WANT TO HEAR THE LIEUTENANT'S VERSION.
EVERYONE DIES AT THE END.
HOW YOU DIE IS WHAT MATTERS

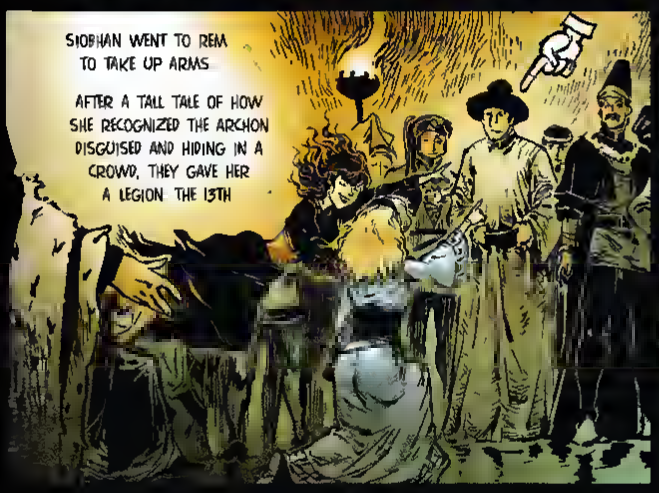


SIOBHAN WAS A YOUNG SHEPHERD BORN UNIQUE, WHICH MADE HER AN ODDITY IN HER COUNTRY VILLAGE

I SEE IN YOUR EYES THAT YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT A UNIQUE IS... JUST SO YOU KNOW, IT'S WHEN THE TWINS COMPLETELY MERGE IN THE MOTHER'S BELLY
PFF! I KNOW WHAT A UNIQUE IS
SHUT UP, MY LOVE.
I WOULD HAVE LOVED TO BE BORN UNIQUE.
I'LL MAKE YOU A EUNUCH!
YOU SON OF A WHORE!

LIKE ALL UNIQUES, SIOBHAN HAD A SPLIT PERSONALITY
SHE COULD HEAR HER TWIN SISTER INSIDE HER HEAD
THOSE KIND OF VOICES USUALLY WHISPER PARANOID THINGS TO YOU BUT IN SIOBHAN'S CASE IT WAS MORE ABOUT GREAT IDEALS LIKE SAVING THE COUNTRY AND THE REPUBLIC AGAINST THE INVADERS FROM NAM'

AT THE TIME, THE CROW'S LANDS WERE UNDER THE OCCUPATION OF NAMOREAN TROOPS
REM
EST
REM'S ARMY WAS LOSING GROUND THE TROOPS' MORALE WAS AT ITS LOWEST AND THE POLITICIANS WERE READY TO GIVE UP THRIVING LANDS, WHEN...


SIOBHAN WENT TO REM TO TAKE UP ARMS
AFTER A TALL TALE OF HOW SHE RECOGNIZED THE ARCHON DISGUISED AND HIDING IN A CROWD, THEY GAVE HER A LEGION. THE 13TH

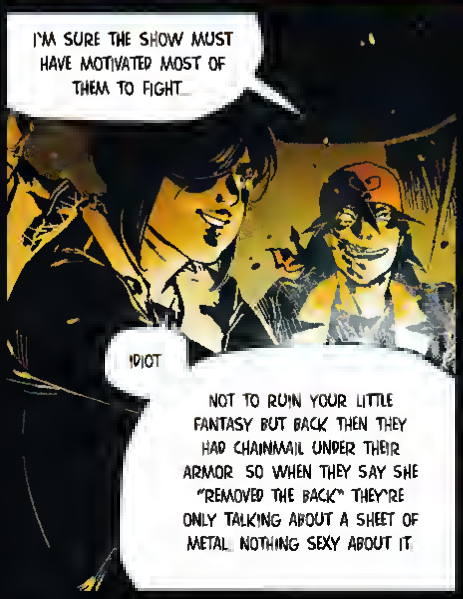
BACK THEN THE 13TH WAS MADE UP OF THE WORST PEOPLE THE ARMY HAD TO OFFER...
DISGRACED NOBLES...
BANDITS...
THIEVES AND RAPISTS...
ASSASSINS...
BUT SIOBHAN, CONVINCED THAT HER MISSION CAME FROM GOD, WASN'T INTIMIDATED.

THANKS TO HER CHARISMA AND DETERMINATION THE 13TH BECAME A FORMIDABLE WAR MACHINE!

SHE CRUSHED THE ENEMY AND PUSHED THEM BACK TO THE DESERT BORDERS

IN NAMOREAN TERRITORY, THE ONE THEY NOW CALLED THE "MAID" HAD TO FACE FORCES THREE TIMES LARGER AND THREE TIMES NASTIER THAN THEIRS
AS IF THAT WASN'T ENOUGH, SIOBHAN'S TROOPS WERE MORALLY AND PHYSICALLY EXHAUSTED BY THE LONG CAMPAIGN THEY HAD BEEN THROUGH
TO RAISE THEIR SPIRITS, SIOBHAN REMOVED THE BACK OF HER ARMOR AND TOLD THEM THIS..

"I'LL BE AT THE HEAD OF THE VANGUARD TO FACE OUR MORTAL ENEMY! I'M COUNTING ON YOU, MY BROTHERS OF THE 13TH, TO PROTECT MY BACK!"
AND SO THEY WENT, ONE AGAINST THREE. GALVANIZED BY SIOBHAN, THE 13TH INFLICTED SO MANY LOSSES TO THE NAMOREAN TROOPS THAT THE ENEMY RETREATED BACK TO NIPPUR.
NOWADAYS THE LEGEND OF THE MAID STILL INSPIRES THE WOMEN SOLDIERS OF THE REPUBLIC.


I'M SURE THE SHOW MUST HAVE MOTIVATED MOST OF THEM TO FIGHT...
IDIOT
NOT TO RUIN YOUR LITTLE FANTASY BUT BACK THEN THEY HAD CHAINMAIL UNDER THEIR ARMOR. SO WHEN THEY SAY SHE "REMOVED THE BACK" THEY'RE ONLY TALKING ABOUT A SHEET OF METAL. NOTHING SEXY ABOUT IT.

?
?
WHAT IS IT?

INTRUDER...
QUICK, PUT OUT THE FIRE!

PSHH

WHERE IS SCRUTE?
NO IDEA...
SHEATHE YOUR BLADE OR THEY'LL SEE US!
HIDE YOUR DOG TAGS
SHIK
WHO'D WANT TO ATTACK A GROUP OF RECRUITS? NAM SOLDIERS?
THERE ARE ISOLATED TRIBES IN THESE MOUNTAINS
LET THEM SHOW THEMSELVES FIRST
THERE!
STAC
A BARBARIAN!
KEF
PRAK
SHOULD WE MOVE?
SHIK
HOLY SHIT!
ARG
GARGOYLE!

BKAM
TCHOT
DVAM
TCHOT
CHARGE!!

FUCK! WHAT IS THIS THING!
AVANCIR!
BRAM
FIRE ON THAT GIANT!
TING TING
TING
SWAK
AUGH!
SNIPE THE WINDOW!
TSIN

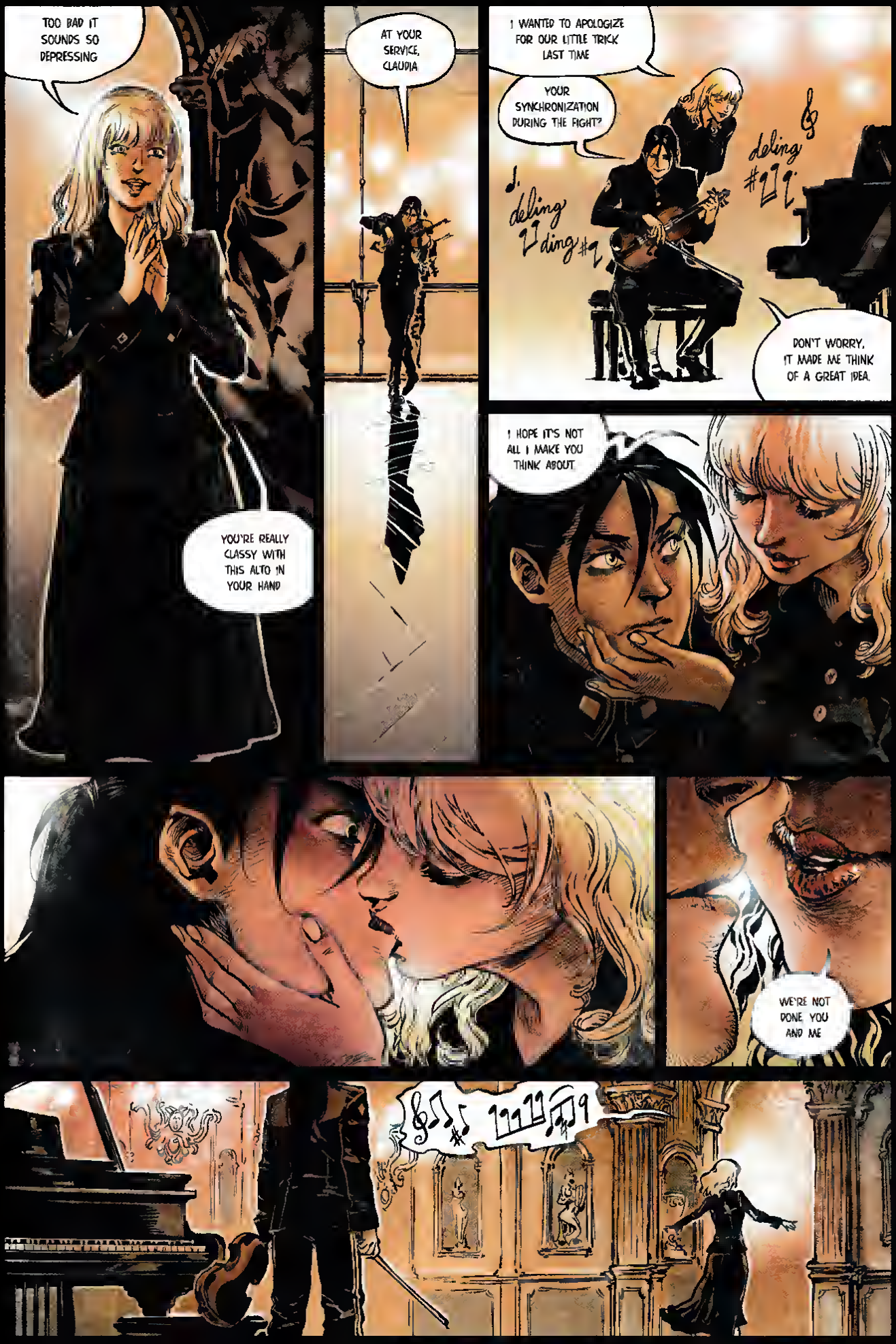
TSAP
TSAP
BRAK
YAH!!
TSAP
TSAP
COME ON, COME HERE!
AUGH
NEED ANY HELP?
NO, NOT ANYMORE.

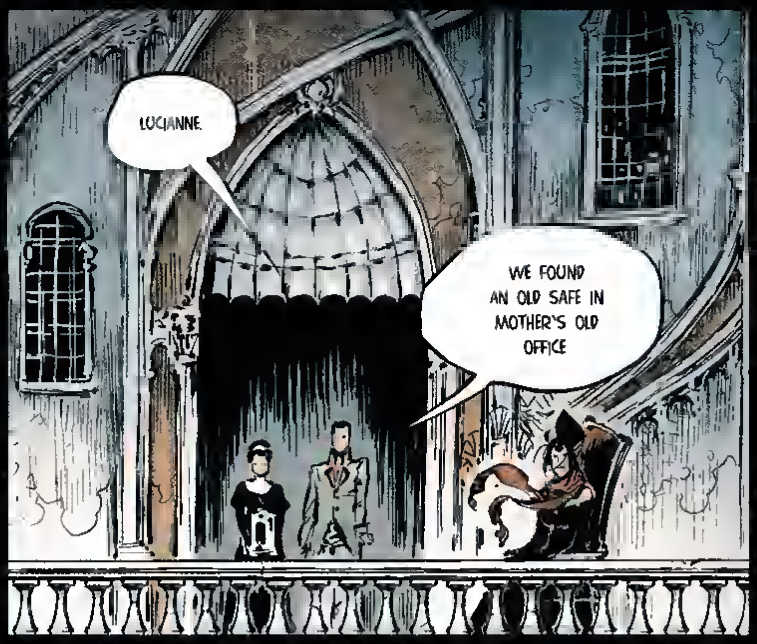
THANKS FOR THE DIVERSION
FOLBAC ! RANOOAI !
I'M BLEEDING!
I'M BLEEDING!
I WISH I HADN'T BEEN SO FUCKING USELESS!
WELL WE'RE NOT GONNA DO IT AGAIN. AT LEAST YOU'RE ALIVE
I'M BLEEDING!!!
NO YOU'RE NOT.
I ONLY TRIPPED DURING THE BATTLE.
IT'S OK PRAETOR, IT'S JUST A SCRATCH.
I WANT TO CLEAN THE WOUND THE BARBARIANS PUT FECES ON THEIR WEAPONS
I'LL GIVE YOU ANTIBIOTICS FOR A WEEK.
POP
I KNOW A GOOD THING TO CLEAN UP SHIT!
GLUP GLUP GLUP
EVEN THE SOUL'S...
SSSSS!!
YOUR TURN, LIEUTENANT.
FOR THE LAST TIME, MY NAME IS [illegible]!
AND I KNOW HOW TO STITCH MYSELF UP!
YOU'RE SURE YOU WANNA RISK GETTING SEPTICEMIA...?
IT'D BE A SHITTY WAY TO DIE...
OKAY DOC!
SHRIK
DO YOUR JOB.

PRAETOR...
IS THERE REALLY NOTHING WE CAN DO FOR APPLE?
NO, NOTHING.
THEY SLIT HIS THROAT WHILE PIERCING HIS LUNGS SO THAT HE COULDN'T RAISE THE ALARM.
I WAS TOO LATE TO DO ANYTHING.
HALF AN HOUR LATER AND I WAS ON GUARD DUTY INSTEAD OF APPLE.
THE BASTARD. THEY TRIED TO TAKE THE BODY.
WHY?
TO EAT IT.
APPLE WASN'T THE BEST OF US...
BUT HE WASN'T THE WORST.
TONIGHT HE KEPT HIS WATCH UNTIL THE END.
EVEN IF HE DIDN'T KEEP IT WELL ENOUGH TO STAY ALIVE.
APPLE WAS A NAME AMONGST OTHERS. BUT TONIGHT...
... HE'S A HERO THAT EARNED HIS PLACE IN VALHALLA.
HIS SACRIFICE WASN'T IN VAIN. WE'RE STILL HERE AS PROOF OF THAT.

THAT WAS THE LAST ONE.
NOW THEY WON'T HAVE TO COME SEARCH FOR THEM IN OUR CAMP.
YOU THINK THEY'D COME BACK AFTER WHAT WE GAVE THEM?
THEIR DEAD ARE SACRED TO THEM. MEN ARE CAPABLE OF ANYTHING IN THE NAME OF SACRED THINGS
MIGHT AS WELL NOT GIVE THEM THE CHANCE
THE PLACE WAS EASY TO DEFEND. IS THAT WHY WE STOPPED HERE?
CAN'T HIDE ANYTHING FROM YOU LITTLE GENIUS
EVEN WHEN WE TAKE ALL THE PRECAUTIONS WE CAN EACH TRIP THE MOUNTAIN STILL TAKES ITS DUE.
ONLY ONE DEAD TONIGHT. WE GOT OFF LIGHTLY.

CLANG
YOU KNOW I LOVE YOU.
BUT YOU ARE TOO LARGE AND TOO HEAVY, MY FRIEND.
AFTER ALL IF IT WAS THAT EASY IT WOULD HAVE BEEN DONE
A PORTABLE PIANO?
NO.
YOU HOLD IT LIKE THIS...
CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP

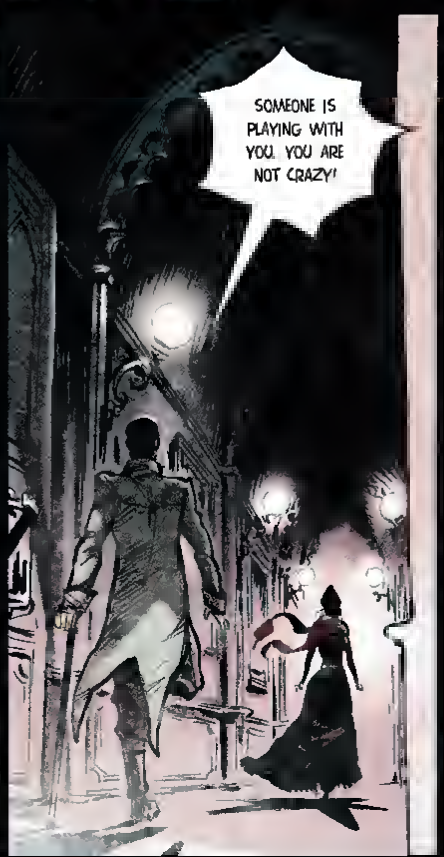

TOO BAD IT SOUNDS SO DEPRESSING
YOU'RE REALLY CLASSY WITH THIS ALTO IN YOUR HAND
AT YOUR SERVICE, CLAUDIA
I WANTED TO APOLOGIZE FOR OUR LITTLE TRICK LAST TIME
YOUR SYNCHRONIZATION DURING THE FIGHT?
DON'T WORRY, IT MADE ME THINK OF A GREAT IDEA.
I HOPE IT'S NOT ALL I MAKE YOU THINK ABOUT
WE'RE NOT DONE, YOU AND ME


LUCIANNE
WE FOUND AN OLD SAFE IN MOTHER'S OLD OFFICE

THE JAR WAS THERE BUT...

IT'S EMPTY

THERE ARE MARKS IN THE DUST. IT LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE TOUCHED IT RECENTLY
LUCIANNE ARE YOU LISTENING?


SOMEONE IS PLAYING WITH YOU. YOU ARE NOT CRAZY!

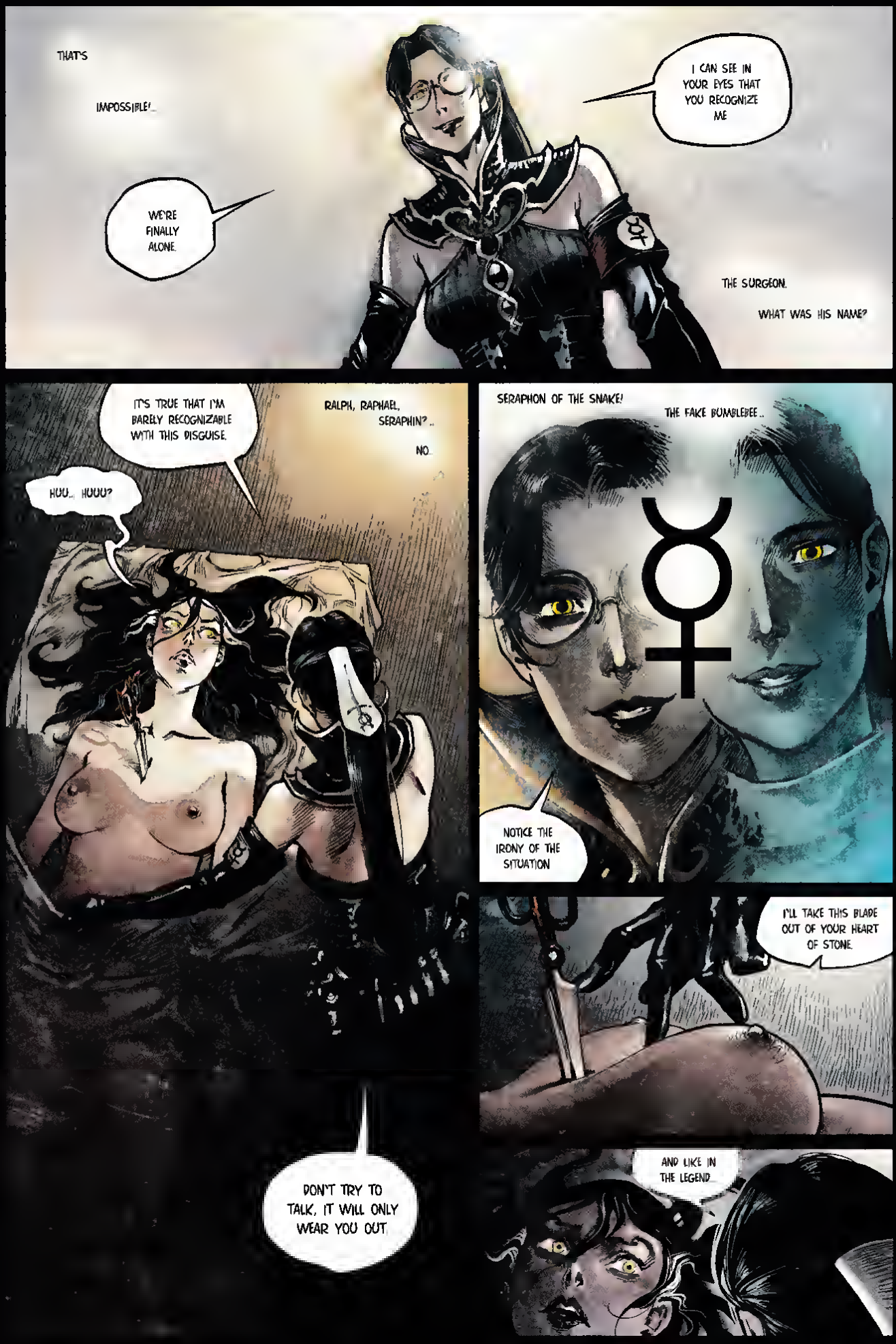
YOU!
YOU HID HER!
HID WHAT?
MY SISTER, WHERE IS SHE?
YOU'RE HURTING ME!
I'M NOT TALKING TO YOU!
I didn't touch that damn jar.
Are you sure you didn't move it yourself?
LUCIANNE, MY DEAR, WHERE IS YOUR SISTER? I DON'T SEE HER WITH YOU ANYMORE.
WHERE IS HER BODY!
TELL ME YOU OLD HAG!
LUCIANNE!
Mmahahaha...
STOP LUCIANNE, YOU'LL BREAK SOMETHING!
Maybe your sister was only an excuse to get the best out of the spoiled little brat that you were?
Maybe you're only one and the same?
There must be someone you can count on?...
NO
Someone that takes the harsh decisions for you?...
NO
Someone that will always be here for you?...
No need to deny it, I see it in your eyes.
Her name.
Tell me the name of your imaginary friend.

NO !!!
HAHAHA !!
HAH
STOP LAUGHING!
HAHAHAHAGLLGLL
I am not like you!

LUCIANNE?
MADAM?
LUCIANNE!
NO!

SPARTACUS...
FORGIVE ME, MY LOVE
I DIDN'T WANT YOU TO DIE.
I NEVER DOUBTED IT
YOU KNOW IT'S IMPOSSIBLE.
THEN DON'T LEAVE ME!

YOU MUST STAY IN THIS WORLD.
THERE IS STILL MUCH TO DO FOR OUR SONS.
HER HEART IS STILL BEATING, IT'S A MIRACLE.
IN REM EVERYONE SAYS YOU'RE THE BEST
SO? CAN YOU TAKE THESE SCISSORS OUT OF HER WITHOUT KILLING HER?
REACTION IN THE PUPILS
SHE'S HANGING ON
THIS VOICE
THIS FIGURE...
GO FETCH MY ASSISTANT.
WE'LL OPERATE HERE, YOUR SISTER CAN'T HANDLE TRANSPORTATION.
I'LL NEED ALL THE HELP YOUR SERVANTS CAN GIVE ME.
THE SNAKE?
BUT...


THAT'S
IMPOSSIBLE!..
WE'RE FINALLY ALONE.
I CAN SEE IN YOUR EYES THAT YOU RECOGNIZE ME
THE SURGEON.
WHAT WAS HIS NAME?
IT'S TRUE THAT I'M BARELY RECOGNIZABLE WITH THIS DISGUISE.
HUU... HUUU?
RALPH, RAPHAEL, SERAPHIN?..
NO.
SERAPHON OF THE SNAKE!
THE FAKE BUMBLEBEE..
NOTICE THE IRONY OF THE SITUATION
I'LL TAKE THIS BLADE OUT OF YOUR HEART OF STONE.
DON'T TRY TO TALK, IT WILL ONLY WEAR YOU OUT
AND LIKE IN THE LEGEND...

IT WILL MAKE ME KING.

I STILL ASK MYSELF THAT QUESTION TODAY...

KNOK-NOK
??

!!!

WAS THE WORLD READY TO SEE MY BROTHER AND I REUNITED?

BECAUSE SELF-REALIZING PROPHECY OR NOT...

THE TWO OF US WERE LIKE THE FOUR HERALDS OF JUDGMENT DAY.
0:15:

CARRYING A MESSAGE THAT WOULD DESTROY EVERYTHING IN ITS WAKE.
DELIVERANCE

Cowboys on horses
without wings

Translator / Editor

Rol

Proofreader

Omgwtfbbyponies

Funérailles